

NORTHEAST AREA COMMISSION JUNE 1, 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) = Absent Excused
Sandra Chapple (At Large) = Present
Brad Davis (Bridgeview) = Present
Antwan Horston (Arlington Park II) = Absent Unexcused
Nicole Horston (At Large) = Absent Unexcused
Chanel McDougle-Yakubu (Walnut Creek) = Absent Excused
Dr. Dimaris Medina-Cortes (At Large) = Present
Rosaline Mbae (At Large) = Present
Kawther Musa (Framingham) = Absent Unexcused

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Chair Rogers. She reviewed meeting decorum. Commissioner Chapple conducted roll call and confirmed that a quorum to conduct business has been met.

Meeting Agenda Approval/Amendments (June 1, 2023)

- Chair Rogers announced the absence of our CLO Officers; therefore, there crime statics will not be announced today. She also mentioned the absence of the Columbus Metropolitan Library Representative; therefore, this presentation will be moved to the July, 2023 meeting.
- Commissioner Moore added business relative to a Demolition Permit #2322403 (2183 Burrell; Columbus, OH)
- Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the Agenda with mentioned amendments. Commission Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Minutes Approval/Amendments (May 4, 2023)

- Commissioner Medina-Cortes made a motion to approve May 4, 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Minutes Approval/Amendments (May 17, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes)

- Commissioner Medina-Cortes made a motion to approve May 17, 2023 special meeting minutes. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NORTHEAST AREA COMMISSION

JUNE 1, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Treasurer's Financial Report (May, 2023)

Opening Balance & Dates	Transaction Type	Payee	Transaction Description	Balances
May Beginning Balance				\$1,208.63
5/4/2023	Copying	Staples	Commission Meeting Prep	(\$36.69)
5/10/2023	Zoning	The UPS Store	Zoning PO Box (1 yr.)	(\$274.92)
5/17/2023	Annual unspent budget monies	City of Columbus	NEAC Annual Budget monies unspent and returned to City Treasurer's Office per MOU Agreement for 2022-2023 yr.	(\$697.02)
5/22/2023	Amazon Merchandise Refund	n/a	Refund for defective Name Badge	\$13.24
May Ending Balance				\$213.24

- Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the May, 2023 Treasurer's Report. Commissioner Medina-Cortes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Community Liaison Officer (CLO) Report: No Report this meeting due to absence of Officers.

Guest Presentations:

- League of Women Voters representative (non-profit, nonpartisan Civic organization):
 - Office located on Busch Blvd and is staffed by volunteers
 - Focus on Voter Registration, lowers barriers to the ballot box and provide resources for voters
 - Partnering with the City of Columbus to present information and resources for voters by attending and networking with various Commissions and neighborhoods throughout Columbus
 - Shared important information relative to upcoming City Council changes and the August, 2023 voting

NORTHEAST AREA COMMISSION

JUNE 1, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

City of Columbus Representative Updates:

➤ Sarah Pomeroy, City Attorney's Office

- Working on Summer area concerns on commercial properties
- Encouraged residents to report concerns to be reviewed by the City Attorney's office

➤ Delena Scales, Neighborhood Program Specialist, Dept. of Neighborhoods

- Closeout Financial Reports are due by May 31, 2023
- Commissioner Spring Networking meeting will occur on May 31 (6 pm: East Market)
- \$300 will be left in our bank account for business purchases needed. Once the monies are left in the account, it may be used. Reminder to only conduct commission business during the monthly meeting in a public forum and not within an email to other commissioners
- Currently, interviews are being conducted for a new Liaison. Once a person is selected, they will be introduced as the new Liaison for the NAC

Zoning and Variance Update (Commissioner Moore, Zoning Chair)

➤ Z23-0210: 3662 Agler Rd.; Columbus, OH 43219

- Rezoning request to change zoning from R1 to CPD for the purpose of building an auto paint and body repair facility (Representative Atty. Jeff Brown, Smith and Hale)
- Concern was voiced from a northeast area resident about building this business in the Northeast area. Commissioner Moore responded that all surrounding residents received invitations to attend the most recent Zoning Committee meeting in order to express their concern with this business. Many residents attended the Zoning Committee meeting and expressed no concern about this business being placed in their community. She further added that the business has agreed to comply with all suggestions of the Zoning Commission (e.g. sidewalk installation, traffic study, building respectfully with the consent of other businesses in this area and construction of a privacy fence)
- Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the rezoning request to change zoning from R1 to CPD for the purpose of building an auto paint and body repair facility. Commissioner Chapple seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously

➤ Demolition: 2183 Burrell Avenue; Columbus, OH 43219

- Burned property that needs to be demolished. Commissioner Davis made a motion to permit this building to be removed with the condition that verification of Ohio residency be verified by Commissioner Moore and there are no areas of concern relative to the owners of this property. Commissioner Moore stated if she finds concerns with the owners of the property, she will bring it before the Commission during a future meeting. Commissioner Medina-Cortes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NORTHEAST AREA COMMISSION

JUNE 1, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Old Business/ (Chair Rogers)

- Election Committee Updates (Commissioner Moore)
 - Candidate Packets are due on June 16th
 - Available Commissioner seats are for Cumberland Ridge, Framingham, Brunswick Estates, Somerset (Appointment), Willow Springs (Appointment) and 2 At Large Commissioner seats
 - Signs will be displayed in various locations within the Northeast Area of Columbus
- Mobile Home Park Update (Commissioner Medina-Cortes)
 - Meeting took place on May 25th ; brief highlights of this meeting were reviewed by Commissioner Medina-Cortes
 - City rezoning modifications currently being reviewed relative to Mobile Home communities
 - Monthly meetings moved to Columbus Library (Downtown) beginning in June (every fourth Thursday). Commissioner Medina-Cortes stated that other Commissioners expressed interest in attending Mobile Home Park Committee meetings; however, the dates and times conflict with their own area commission meetings. Chair Rogers suggested considering a meeting date and change to better accommodate attendance of constituents and Commissioners from other areas who might want to attend. Commissioner Medina-Cortes agreed to consider this request
- National Night Out Update (Chair Rogers)
 - Voted to have this event on August 1, 2023; Howard Recreation Center -2505 Cassady Ave. (5-8 pm)
 - \$500 Grant requested to assist with expenses for this event
 - To date, the D.J, Bouncy House and Food Truck have been secured for this event. Howard Recreation Center will hold their Health Fair during this event and 10TV was asked to participate during their live 6 pm broadcast. Other possible participants include Franklin County Sheriff's office, Latino Community representatives and a host of other area businesses

New Business/Commissioner Announcements (None)

Commissioner Updates:

- Commissioner Medina-Cortes requested clarification on Commissioner Absences based on our By Laws (Article 3: Membership & Terms-Section B: Disqualifications). She asked if to date, we have received a phone call, written communication and/or text from Antwan and/or Nicole Horston to excuse their absences from attending the meetings of May 4, May 17 and June 1 (today); today would make absence #3 for both Antwan and Nicole Horston. Further, Commissioner Medina-Cortes stated that per our By Laws (Section D: Excused Absences) states "verbal communication from an area Commissioner should request that some/all absences be excused due to extenuating circumstances" which is why she is asking if there has been any communication. Chair Rogers stated and Commissioner Chapple (Secretary) confirmed that no communication has been initiated by Antwan and/or Nicole Horston in advance of their absences from the meetings of May 4, May 17 and June 1 (today). Chair Rogers reminded everyone that during the April 6th meeting, we all agreed and voted unanimously that "if a Commissioner is not in attendance at the start of the meeting (6:30 pm), he/she will be marked "Absent Unexcused" .

NORTHEAST AREA COMMISSION

JUNE 1, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Updates (cont'd)

- Commissioner Medina-Cortes further read that the By Laws state "...these excused absences must be reported to the Secretary and the Chairperson so that it is properly documented on the roster. If the communication is not received, it shall be deemed as a resignation from the Commission and notice as such will be communicated to the Dept. of Neighborhoods. Failure to abide by the adopted By Laws may result in disqualification of the commissioner. Disqualification of an Area Commissioner requires $\frac{3}{4}$ of a majority vote of the area commission and the Secretary shall notify the Dept. of Neighborhoods". Commissioner Medina-Cortes stated she values her voluntary Commissioner role and wanted clarification on this matter. Commissioner Chapple added that on May 4th, the meeting started slightly later since other Commissioners notified Chair Rogers that they would be arriving late due to significant traffic in the area. Commissioner Chapple called Commissioner Antwan Horston by phone to see if both Commissioners Antwan Horston and Nicole Horston would be arriving late for the same reason. Commissioner Horston answered the phone and shared that he was in the hospital and neither he nor Commissioner Nicole Horston would be attending the meeting. After researching whether this is considered an excused absence, Commissioner Chapple was advised that this would not be considered an excused absence because neither she nor Chair Rogers were contacted about this impending absence prior to the start of the meeting as stated in our By Laws. Commissioner Medina-Cortes asked for clarification on this possibly being "extenuating circumstances" as stated in the By Laws. Chair Rogers reminded Commissioner Cortes that in the April meeting Commissioner Nicole Horston made the motion that advance communication prior to the start of the meeting would be needed to excuse an absence from a meeting and we all unanimously agreed and voted to pass this motion. Commissioner Medina-Cortes then asked about next steps. DeLena Scales strongly encouraged Chair Rogers to facilitate an official vote on this matter. Commissioner Medina-Cortes made a motion to accept the self-resignation of Commissioner Antwan Horston based on Article 3: Membership & Terms-Section D of our By Laws. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously. Commissioner Medina-Cortes made a motion to accept the self-resignation of Commissioner Nicole Horston based on Article 3: Membership & Terms-Section D of our By Laws. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously. Delena Scales provided instruction on who should receive the official letters including one to her as a representative of Dept. of Neighborhoods. She also stated that she would coordinate their names being removed from the Northeast Area Commission city roster.

Public Comments

- Residents from Arlington Park II expressed concern about children being left home alone and are causing various problems within the neighborhood. Chair Rogers agreed to link these residents with City Resources (Commission Liaisons) and City Attorney's office to resolve these concerns.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.