

**Northeast Area Commission Meeting**  
**March 2, 2023**

**Northeast Area Commissioners Roll Call:**

**Karen Rogers (Cumberland Ridge): Chair - Present**

**Karen Brown (Brunswick Estates) – Present**

**Chanel McDougle-Yakubu (Walnut Creek): Secretary – Absent Excused**

**Elenora Moore (Arlington Park I): Zoning Chair – Present**

**Sandra Chapple (At Large): Present**

**Brad Davis (Bridgeview): Absent Unexcused**

**Antwan Horston (Arlington Park II): Present**

**Nicole Horston (At Large): Absent Excused**

**Dr. Dimaris Medina-Cortes (At Large): Absent Excused**

**Kawther H. Musa (Framingham): Absent Excused**

**Aaron Woosley (At Large): Absent Unexcused - Resigned**

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Chair Rogers called the meeting to order at 6:34pm and reviewed meeting decorum. Commissioner Chapple conducted roll call and announced that we do not have enough Commissioners in attendance to represent a quorum; however, per our By Laws (see below)

- Article V: Meetings/Section F.a. = “A quorum for transacting business shall consist of six (6) members of the Northeast Area Commission. A ‘majority vote’ will be utilized for the purposes of voting if a quorum is not available.”

Since we do not have a quorum at this meeting, a majority vote permits us to conduct business as normal based on our By Laws.

**Meeting Agenda Approval/Amendments (March 2, 2023):**

- Commissioner Moore suggested moving Z23-003/3573 Agler Rd. (Rezoning Request) and CV23-006/3573 Agler Rd. (Variance Request) to the April, 2023 meeting as an amendment to today’s agenda. Chair Rogers also stated that she wants to add discussion on training and other announcements to today’s agenda that she forgot to add prior to today’s meeting. Commissioner Chapple made suggestions to add a discussion on the Election Committee Chair and the Attendance Policy both under “New Business”
- Commissioner Moore made a motion to accept today’s agenda with all proposed amendments. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Meeting Minutes Approval/Amendments (January 5, 2023):**

- Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the January 5, 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Meeting Minutes Approval/Amendments (February 2, 2023):**

- Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the February 2, 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Financial Report (February 2, 2023)**

Opening Balance & Dates	Transaction Type	Payee	Transaction Description	Balances
February Beginning Balance				\$2,303.49
No Transactional Activity	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
February Ending Balance				\$2,303.49

- Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Financial Report for February 2, 2023. Commissioner Moore seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Community Liaison Officer (CLO): Officer Lisa Barbeau:**

- Officer Barbeau reported:
  - Vehicle thefts (Kia’s and Hyundai’s) are lower but continuing and they are being abandoned in the Easton area. There was a car theft at the Post Office on Citygate Drive which was the result of the owner not leaving her keys in a secure area. Another car theft occurred in the formerly known Agler Green area and was the result of a resident warming their car with the vehicle unlocked.
  - A robbery occurred at Innis Park; the victim was walking in the park and was approached by two men who proceeded to take his personal items (wallet and phone) then ran by foot.
  - Officer Barbeau responded to a question from Liaison Scales relative to impact of upcoming Police redistricting. Officer Barbeau clarified that instead of 5 districts, there will be six which will promote more effective service (response time and visibility) in all areas of Columbus. Also, there will be no change in CLO Officers.

**City of Columbus Representative Updates:**

- Sarah Pomeroy, Assistant City Attorney (City Attorney’s Office):
  - The City Attorney’s office is gaining a new attorney.
  - Capital Park Apartments has complied with most of their violations to date; still working with management to resolve remaining issues.

### **City of Columbus Representative Updates:**

- Sarah Pomeroy, Assistant City Attorney - City Attorney's Office (cont'd):
  - Currently working with a resource to compile the top service calls from Mobile Home Parks to assist with more effective enforcement in those communities.
  
- DeLena Scales, Program Specialist (Department of Neighborhoods):
  - Reminder: All current Commission funds have to be spent by April 30, 2023; no spending is permitted after this date. On May 31, 2023, the City Treasurer's office will withdraw all funds except \$250, which will carry over to the new year per the Memorandum of Agreement previously distributed.
  - On March 18, 2023, the Commission Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer should join the Fiscal and Budget Management training with David Fox and Julia Carter to learn about the new budgetary process which will be used to finalize the 2022-2023 Fiscal Report as well as future Fiscal reports.
  - Kudos was given to Commissioners Moore and Medina-Cortes for suggesting opportunities for Area Commissioners to network outside of training which resulted in creating new networking sessions (up to 70 Commissioners) added to the schedule of trainings (distributed by Liaison Scales):
    - East Market (April, 2023) = Eastside Area Commissioner Representatives will share projects they are coordinating and Zoning efforts
    - Bud Dairy (August, 2023) = Northeast Area Commissioner Representatives will share projects they are coordinating inclusive of Mobile Home Park Committee initiatives.
  - Liaison Scales received emails from residents of the Cumberland Ridge community expressing gratitude and appreciation for the cleanup efforts in this area.
  - Upcoming Training: City Attorney Open Forum for Commissioners (March 29 via Webex – 6-7:30 pm)
  - Share with civic groups in your district there are opportunities for job training through Goodwill.

### **Zoning and Variance Update:**

1. **BZA22-179 / 2145 Earl Ave.; Columbus, OH 43211 (Rep. Dana Harding)**
  - Variance Request: Applicant built a shed without a permit. Requesting a variance to legitimize existing 20'x30' storage shed.
    - Commissioner Antwan Horston made a motion to grant a variance for the storage shed to remain in place. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Old Business/Commissioner Announcements (Chair Rogers):**

- Officer Elections (discussion resumed from March, 2023 meeting)
  - Chair Rogers read correspondence from Commissioner McDougle-Yakubu asking that her name be withdrawn for Secretary consideration during 2023; however, she wishes to continue her tenure, representing the Walnut Creek District. She also stated that she is taking an extended leave of absence for personal reasons and will return to fulfill her commissioner duties at some point during 2023.
  - Commissioner Chapple made a motion to accept Commissioner McDougle-Yakubu's letter as written. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
  - Commissioner Chapple made a motion to rescind her acceptance of Vice Chair from last month's meeting and become Interim Secretary. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
  - Commissioner Rogers suggested the Vice Chair role remain open until the end of 2023. Commissioner Brown made a motion to accept Chair Rogers suggestion that the Vice Chair role remain open until the end of 2023. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
  - Commissioner Rogers asked if anyone was interested in the role of Treasurer for the 2023 year. Commissioner Brown made a motion to nominate Commissioner Chapple to retain the role of Treasurer for 2023. Commissioner Chapple accepted the nomination. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### **New Business:**

- Chair Rogers read a letter from At-Large Commissioner Aaron D. Woosley who has resigned his At-Large Commissioner seat with the Northeast Area Commission due to work obligations and his unavailability to attend monthly meetings; it was in the best interest of the commission to resign at this time. Commissioner Chapple seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Chair Rogers introduced an At-Large Commissioner candidate (Rosaline Mbae) to fill the remaining term of former Commissioner Aaron D. Woosley's seat. Rosaline gave a brief introduction of her accomplishments, community standing and interest in becoming a Northeast Area Commissioner. Commissioner Brown made a motion to accept Rosaline Mbae as At-Large Commissioner to fill the now vacant seat. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Liaison scales clarified that Rosaline would need to complete and forward her application to finalize the appointment process for the vacant seat. She will have voting privileges in 30 days.

### **City-Wide Election Updates:**

- Commissioner Chapple mentioned that she attended the virtual City-Wide Elections meeting that provided dates for elections activity and announced the process for 2023. Liaison Scales announced that the City-Wide elections occur on Saturday, August 26, 2023 and provided additional information about how other Area Commissions participated in City-Wide elections during 2022. Based on suggestions from year 2022, deadlines are more liberal in 2023 to permit a longer Marketing material turnaround time and give more time for candidates to campaign. Chair Rogers announced that the Commission seats of herself, Commissioner Musa, Commissioner Chapple and Commissioner Brown are all up for election consideration.
- Commissioner Antwan Horston made a motion to delay the Election Committee member selection to the April meeting so that all absent commissioners are in attendance to consider participation on this committee. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Brown also made a motion that the Northeast Area Commission participate in the City-Wide election process for 2023. Commissioner Antwan Horston seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Liaison Scales clarified that there are 2 Liaison's who will serve of Election resources to assist Election Chairs in navigating the City-Wide Election process.

### **Roberts Rules of Order discussion:**

- Chair Rogers clarified that Roberts Rules of Order is a guideline and not listed as a process that our Commission must follow; it can be used to resolve debates or disagreements on matters pr when reaching a stalemate when no conclusion is evident. Chair Rogers proposed that Roberts Rules of Order be utilized by our commission as a guideline to resolve conflict and maintain order. Continuing dialogue ensued about utilizing Roberts Rules of Order.
- Commissioner Brown made a motion that we only utilize Roberts Rules of Order to resolve conflict on a subject matter and not as a meeting process. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed by majority vote with one abstaining vote.

### **Attendance Policy discussion:**

- Commissioner Chapple mentioned there has been some disagreement relative to the Attendance policy put in place by Commissioner McDougle-Yakubu that notice of missing a commission meeting be provided to the Secretary no later than 2 pm the day before the meeting. She also mentioned this is not listed in the current By Laws.

### **Attendance Policy discussion (cont'd)**

- Liaison Scales communicated that she would like to talk with the City Attorney and obtain their legal opinion about the practice of the Secretary being the deciding person on commissioner absence notifications, especially because there is nothing in our current By Laws about an Attendance Policy and it has been suggested that it be customary that the Secretary decides when commissioner absence notification be enforced.
- Commissioner Brown asked why an absence must be unexcused if reported after a specific time. Chair Rogers and Moore expressed that commissioners need to establish some type of absence reporting parameter so the Chair knows if they can effectively conduct business, as well as being a courtesy to the Full Commission or any guests that may be expecting a vote on Zoning matters.
- Chair Rogers recommended delaying a final Attendance Policy consideration until Liaison Scales talks with the City Attorney and reports her findings so that the Commission can make an informed decision. Liaison Scales suggested talking with the City Attorney during the City-Wide training on March 28<sup>th</sup>. As a result, Commissioner Chapple made a motion to delay making a vote on an official Attendance Policy until the April, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Antwan Horston seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- In the interest of time, Chair Rogers suggested that the conversation on civil discourse be postponed until the April, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Antwan Horston made a motion to table any further discussion on civil discourse until the April, 2023 meeting. Commission Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Chair Rogers briefly discussed possible shirt purchases (e.g. styles, material types, vendors, etc.). She will find out more information and share at the April, 2023 meeting.

### **Public Comments/Open to Floor:**

- A concern was expressed about considering a traffic light adjacent to Cumberland Ridge due to the increased traffic and upcoming apartments in the area. She also expressed a strong interest in getting barriers that border the Cumberland Ridge community entrance since the current walls continue to be damaged by speeding vehicles. Liaison Scales mentioned that she is in discussion with City of Columbus departments about replacing the damaged Cumberland Ridge Wall and a traffic light – more to come at a latter date.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.