

# WESTLAND AREA COMMISSION

P.O. Box 293 – Galloway, OH 43119

**Wednesday July 21, 2021**

Darby House

Chairman: Scott Taylor; Vice Chairman: Bill Steimer; Treasurer: Dave Van Order; Recording Officer: Tena Thompson

## Minutes

7:09 Call to Order

### Roll Call

Nancy Day-Achauer-*	Marian Hymer-EX	Bill Steimer-*	Shawn Thomas-*
Cathy Cowan Becker-*	Brian Largan- Lyman-EX	Jeff Tanner-*	Tena Thompson-EX
Janet Cahill-*	Mike McKay- EX	Scott Taylor-*	David Van Order-*
Ashley Hoye-*	Denise Southworth-*		

\*- Present  
EX- Excused

Chair Taylor asked for a motion to approve the June 2021 minutes with corrections. Bill Steimer made the motion to approve the amended minutes and Denise Southworth seconded. All approved and the June 2021 minutes were approved with corrections.

### Recognition of guests

CPD- SGT Bruce was present and didn't have a report. He was asked about gang activity in the area and he said that he didn't have specifics but would look into the concern.

Chair Taylor announced that there would be a representative from the Franklin County Auditor's office presenting at the September meeting.

### Committee Reports

#### **Zoning-**

Committee Chair Mike McKay was not present but Commission Chair Taylor reported that the anticipated Zoning application has been tabled at this meeting, but should be presented at the September meeting.

**Community Relations** – Nothing to report.

#### Education –

There was no official report, however it was asked if there was word as to who would be replacing David Stewart as the Education representative. Mr. Taylor said he would reach out to Mr. Stewart and see if he knew or how to make the arrangements to get a new representative.

#### Planning & Development –

Committee Chair Bill Steimer said the housing development behind Kroger on Broad St. is going up quick. There does not seem to be any delays in getting the community built. It was noted that the new Norton Middle School is coming along. It is anticipated to open in the Fall of 2022. There was no news on the Hall Rd/Norton Rd development. It was questioned when their next application/extension would be due to the city Zoning committee. More information to come.

### **Public Health & Safety –**

Committee chair Nancy Day Achauer informed that people could receive the Covid vaccination at the Franklin Co. Fair from 12 to 5. No appointment needed to do so. Also, she discussed the June Produce giveaway and how they ran out of food. She emphasized how there is a great need in the community and that hunger was affecting every demographic from young families to older adults.

### **Recreation & Parks –**

Committee chair Shawn Thomas informed the Commission about the Recreation and Parks meeting that was held on June 23. The meeting's guest speaker was Rosalie Hendon, who presented the information thus far about the Urban Forestry plan. She gave basic information about the plan and emphasized that it is a work in progress. She described the goals and what the plan is supposed to accomplish. She did say there were numerous challenges as the tree inventory is not up to date. The last inventory was done in 1997, thus could be drastically different than what is thought. Committee members did ask questions and were able to voice their concerns as well learn about the project. More information to come.

There was a discussion about what Recreation services are available to the community in the Westland area. It was stated that Prairie Township does have resources but those are nearly full from members of the township and the city does not understand that the township can not handle the demand of both areas. Members expressed how the need for recreation in the area is not being met, including the need for a center, parks, ball fields, trails etc. Ideas will be discussed of what can be done to try to make this more known on a city level. More information to come.

After many years of community service, Mr. Thomas informed members that he was resigning from the Westland Area Commission. Commission chair Taylor is looking for someone to chair the committee as well as more people joining the Rec and Parks committee.

### **Old Business**

Commission member Cathy Cowan Becker presented the web page that she created on behalf of the commission. She gave a brief overview of each section, and highlighted what each section discussed and the features involved. She emphasized that that web page could be changed. She discussed other sections that she would be adding and explained it would be an ongoing process but that the formatting was mostly complete. She was open to suggestions as well. Members thanked her and seemed overly impressed with the design and presentation of the web page.

Chair Taylor reminded members that there is an upcoming election. Ashley Hoyer, Marian Hymer, Denise Southworth, and Dave Van Order are up for re-election and can not serve on the election committee. After discussion it was decided that the election forms will be updated and posted on the WAC webpage and it was optional to have forms mailed as well. The forms would be posted by July 23. The petitions would be due Aug 23 and if an election is needed then it would be held Aug 28.

### **New Business**

Chair Taylor informed members that the meetings for the remainder of 2021 will be held at the Westland Library. This is subject to change if restrictions are placed due to Covid. WAC is looking for other alternatives, since any public area could be affected and might not allow public gatherings.

Chair Taylor asked for a motion to not hold an August meeting unless a pressing matter needed to be heard. Bill Steimer made the motion and Nancy Day Achauer seconded and all members agreed.

Melissa Greene informed the commission that Aug. 11 there is a Code Enforcement meeting from 6pm- to 8pm. The extensions were received and will be given to Scott. Also, she announced that there will be a camera allowance that has been approved as a budgeted expense. This means WAC can buy a camera and record meetings, and make them Facebook and ZOOM accessible at the same time. The details are still being processed. More information to come.

### **Adjourn**

There being no more business before the Westland Area Commission, Chairman Taylor asked for a motion to adjourn the July 2021 meeting. Jeff Tanner moved to adjourn and Bill Steimer seconded the motion with all members voting in favor. Meeting ended at 8:36pm. The next meeting of the Westland Area Commission will be held September, 15, 2021 at the Westland Area Library.