

WESTLAND AREA COMMISSION

P.O. Box 293 – Galloway, OH 43119

Wednesday Oct. 20, 2021

Westland Area Library

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

Minutes

7:01 pm -Call to Order

Roll Call

Nancy Day-Achauer-*	Marian Hymer-AB	Jeff Tanner-*	*-Present
Cathy Cowan Becker-EX	Mike McKay-*	Scott Taylor-*	EX-Excused
Janet Cahill-*	Denise Southworth-*	Tena Thompson-*	AB- Absent
Ashley Hoye-*	Bill Steimer-*	Dave Van Order-*	

Chair Taylor asked for a motion to approve the September 2021 minutes with corrections. Nancy Day-Achauer made the motion to approve the amended minutes and Denise Southworth seconded. All voted to approved the September 2021 minutes with corrections.

Guests

Mike Curtin was present to speak against Issue 7 which would redirect \$87 million from the city's general fund to Pro Energy Ohio LLC to invest in several self-directed initiatives involving clean energy and minority businesses. He emphasized that there is no cap for these funds, their use is loosely structured, and there are no reporting requirements to the public. He listed several groups and organizations opposing Issue 7 as well.

Committee Reports

Zoning –

Committee chair Mike McKay reported no issues to vote on, but there are three issues that will most likely come before WAC at the November meeting. More information to come.

Mr. McKay reported that there are Zoning code meetings occurring at the city level to update the current code to fit current and future needs. More information to come.

Mike McKay and Janet Cahill spoke before City Council opposing the proposal for the Blausser property. This is the same property that WAC voted against at a previous meeting. City Council voted unanimously to approve the zoning regardless of the objections from the WAC vote and the speakers against.

The next Zoning Committee meeting is Nov. 10 at 6pm.

Community Relations –

Committee member Nancy Day -Achauer reminded members about the Trick or Treat Trail that will be held at Westland High School's parking lot on Sat, Oct. 23 at 4 pm-7pm. This event is heavily attended and a positive way to get WAC's name out. Nancy Day-Achauer plans to attend and is welcoming anyone to participate with her. Candy donations have been met that were asked for at the September meeting.

Education –

There was no official report.

Lori Balough introduced herself as the new SWCS representative to WAC. She has been with the district since 2000 and looks forward to working with the commission.

Planning & Development –

No official report

Public Health & Safety –

Committee Chair Nancy Day- Achuaer reported WAC's Prairie/Westland Community Resources brochure has been updated. The brochure has been shared with the Westland Library, SWCSD, Prairie Township's Fire Department and Community Center, and is posted on the Township website and on the commission's webpage.

The county and city health departments want to remind everyone about the importance of safe and timely disposal of medications. Free medication disposal bags are available at the health departments and through ADAMH. Medicines can also be dropped off at CVS and Walgreens on W. Broad St. and at Meijer on Hilliard Rome. The next produce distribution is Nov. 20, 2021. Food is running out within 30 minutes at each distribution, which is a growing concern for the community.

Recreation & Parks –

Committee Chair Janet Cahill gave a brief overview of what happened at the Oct. 6th, Park and Rec committee meeting. She asked for approval to discuss three properties with Morgen Wade and the Parks and Recreation Capital & Strategic Planning Team at the November 3rd Rec and Parks committee meeting. The three properties are CRP West Broad Street Parkland, vacated Dispatch property and 6410 old Hall Road. By discussing the three properties, the committee hopes to find out what is possible, and present the city with options to reach the goal of obtaining a recreation center for the Westland area. WAC approved the committee's plan to discuss the three properties.

Janet Cahill shared an idea that was presented of notifying block watch members in the area of the committee meeting and one that could be expanded to include all aspects of the Westland Area Commission. She will contact those names once she receives them.

Old Business

It was noted that the multi-use trail on Norton Rd was nearly completed. This part of the trail provides a safer option to bike and walk down Norton Rd from Hall Rd to the Camp Chase Bike Trail.

New Business

Commission chair Taylor reminded everyone that in November committee chairs will be discussed. In 2022 we will elect new officers for the 2023-2025 term.

City of Columbus Community Engagement liaison Averil Townsend was present and gave an update about the city redistricting. On Nov 10, three maps will be presented based on the comments of the first draft. The final vote for the maps will be in December. It was reminded that the maps will be reevaluated every ten years based on the census information and updated to reflect the current information. Also, she announced that there will be two Capital Improvement Budget meetings and the dates and information will be sent out via email.

Department of Neighborhoods liaison Melissa Green reminded everyone there is an Urban Forestry Advisory Group meeting on Nov. 4, 2021 and a link will be emailed to the commission members. Also, she expressed that some of the commissions are hesitant about Code 31.09 (city-wide election date for area commissions), which the commission voted to approve at the September meeting. There are discussions of a committee forming after the first year to express positives and negatives, to teach, learn and educate about the code with the hope that it will be approved by all commissions.

Adjourn

There being no more business before the Westland Area Commission, Chairman Taylor asked for a motion to adjourn the October 2021 meeting. Nancy Day-Achauer moved to adjourn and Janet Cahill seconded the motion with all members voting in favor. Meeting ended at 8:07pm. The next meeting of the Westland Area Commission will be held at 7pm, Wed November 17, 2021 at the Westland Area Library

Chair

Date