

NORTHWEST CIVIC ASSOCIATION DECEMBER 14, 2011, MEETING MINUTES

Trustees in attendance: Jeanne Ashby, Catie Beach, John Ehlers, Amanda Johnston, Rosemarie Lisko, John Schmidt

President John Ehlers called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Jeanne Ashby submitted the November minutes for approval. Motion to approve the minutes made by Jeanne and seconded by Rosemarie Lisko. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

John Ehlers submitted the Treasurer's Report for Mark Krietemeyer (absent) and made a motion for approval which was seconded by Jeanne Ashby. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

CITY REPORTS

Neighborhood Liaison, Mr. Isom Nivens, Jr.

Neighborhood Pride applications are now available online at www.columbus.gov/pride or through your neighborhood liaison. The deadline for consideration is January 2, 2012.

The community Development Collaborative of Greater Columbus will present the Neighborhood Summit on January 24 at the Veterans Memorial from 9a.m. to 4:14p.m. Purpose of the summit is to celebrate and highlight the creative partnerships and projects taking place around the city. Sponsors of the event are: Chase Bank; the Columbus Foundation; and the Affordable Housing Trust.

Council member Eileen Paley is sponsoring several pieces of legislation related to the Curbside Recycling and Yard Waste Program. One piece authorizes the expenditure of \$330,000 to educate area residents on the Curbside Recycling and Yard Waste Program. Another piece will authorize expenditure of \$4,100,000 for the purchase and delivery of 64 gallon recycling containers. The last authorizes a contract modification with Rumpke of Ohio for operation of the new program. The current subscription curbside recycling program will be phased out as the new program is gradually implemented for more than 225,000 households beginning next year.

There will be a public hearing tomorrow, December 15, in the City Council Chambers at 5:00pm for comments on the Mayor's Proposed Budget for 2012. Speaker slips will be accepted until 6:30 pm for the general rules of Council.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Code Enforcement

Rosemarie Lisko indicated her frustrations with Troy Hardgrove and Andy Bauman from Code Enforcement. When she reports issues to 311 they will take over three months to respond. When she calls Code Enforcement directly she gets no resolve. Isom said he would try to contact Andy Bauman personally and try to help her out.

John Best, President of the Northwest Coalition, wants to join with the Northwest Civic Association to meet with Code Enforcement and find out why they are ignoring the northwest area of Columbus. Isom said that they have added new people to the staff so we should be taken care of.

Membership

Jeanne Ashby reported that we currently have 100 Residential Members and 7 Associate Members. About half of those have e-mails and the others just have their addresses listed. At our next meeting in January we need to split the list up and have everyone address envelopes and mail out a membership application along with a cover letter stating the importance of being a member of the NWCA. She asked John Ehlers if he could give her some ideas for a letter that we can e-mail to the members with e-mail addresses and have a hard copy to mail to the rest.

Insurance and Legal

Jeanne Ashby reported that in the mail we received from the IRS that notice that we are reinstated as 503(c)3 not-for-profit organization.

Communications

The board had nothing to report.

Web Site

John Ehlers reported that he is keeping up with our web site, but there is nothing new on it at this time.

OSU Airport

John Schmidt spoke with airport manager, Doug Hammond. There are things going on Ohio State University's Board of Directors and E. Gordon Gee. There is a large proposal to expand the medical facilities and want to keep it growing. They are looking at Don Scott Airport and the OSU Golf course as land they may want to sell. Both of these facilities are self-supporting. There has been some uproar about selling the Golf Course and it wouldn't be good for our area if they sold Don Scott Airport. OSU has a new Director of Engineering, and the School of Aerospace/Mechanical Engineering holds classes at Don Scott. Still, Gordon Gee feels that the Airport need not be a part of the University. There is also the Don Scott Forest, which is 35 acres of land that the College of Agriculture uses. They are working with northwest Columbus Schools, such as the Centennial H.S. AP Environmental Science class, for student tours of the forest. Kathy Smith, OSU Extension Specialist with the Forestry Department, also works with Don Scott Forest. With all of these things going for Don Scott Airport facilities, Rosemarie Lisko asked John Schmidt whether it would help secure the airport's future if the NWCA Board would write a letter in support of the airport to OSU Board of Trustees, and he said that he thought it would.

Parks Recreation and Bikeways

John Schmidt had nothing to report.

Student Interns and Schools

Rosemarie Lisko said that Amy Kear and Theo Jones could not attend the meeting tonight because they were performing in a band concert tonight at Centennial H.S. Rosemarie said that, sometime in the new year, she will be taking them to a Development Commission meeting.

Graphics and Zoning

Bob Shorr, 1061 Lithopolis Road, presented a graphics issue for the Giant Eagle at 4747 Sawmill Road. Giant Eagle wants to revise their existing graphic plan by adding a "State Liquor Agency" sign that extends their current signage by 40 square feet. Under the existing graphic plan, any change to signage

requires a revision to the graphic plan. The existing signage is within the allowable square footage permitted, but Code section 33375.07 B2, whereby a wall sign is comprised of three or more section or Cabinets, the graphic area shall be determined by enclosing the entire perimeter of all Cabinets within a basic geometric figure. The signage will meet all requirement of Columbus graphic code, and all other standards required. Rosemarie asked if was going to be a lit sign and if it was only going to stay lit during the liquor stores hours of operation. Mr. Shorr said it would be lit but like the Pharmacy sign that is lit, it will stay lit only during those hours of operation. Rosemarie said her feelings were that she did not want the sign to be lit at all. Jeanne Ashby said she saw no need for it to be lit. She said everyone who goes to the liquor store already knows it's there as it has been there for over a year. Because of the two adult entertainment clubs across the street and Adam and Eve, an adult novelty store, she didn't want extra advertisement lit up that there was a State Liquor Store. As there was no further discussion, Rosemarie made a motion to approve the "State Liquor Agency" sign on condition that it would not be a lit sign. She also required that an amendment be placed in writing to send before the Graphics and Zoning Committee. Mr. Shorr said that he would have Giant Eagle send us a copy of the amendment in writing immediately. Upon those conditions, John Schmidt seconded the motion.

Vote Taken:

Rosemarie Lisko.....yes Catie Beach yes
John Schmidt.....yes John Ehlers yes
Amanda Johnsonyes Jeanne Ashby..... yes

Approval with 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

OLD BUSINESS

GCAC/Chase Bicentennial program theme is "honoring the past, celebrating the future." NWCA will look into presenting something that we feel makes Northwest Columbus unique. Jeanne Ashby mentioned that Bethel Road is noted for having the most internationally diverse array of restaurants and grocery stores. There could also be a tie in with the diverse culture of students that attend Centennial H.S. John Ehlers will contact Principal Fran Hershey to see how we can tie this all in with our neighborhood.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan asked to give an informal presentation about building a large shed on their property at our January 4 meeting. They had already spoken with all but one of their neighbors getting permission. They will come before the board the following month with their formal request.

Friendship Village is adding to their condominiums and is going to need a new entry cut in the curb from the main road.

Adjournment at 7:53pm.....John Ehlers

Next Meeting

January 4, 2012

Meadow Park Church – 2425 Bethel Road, Room 213