



Minutes | Regular Meeting of the Far South Columbus Area Commission Thursday, September 2, 2021 | 6:30 pm

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:31 by Commissioner Neale.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present

Commissioner Fisher
Commissioner Sherman
Commissioner Neale
Commissioner Smith
Commissioner Walker

Commissioner Patterson
Commissioner Walcott
Commissioner Draudt
Commissioner Yaashantawa

Commissioners Absent

Commissioner Richardson

Guests

Steve Alvarez, Project Manager, City of Columbus (2266 Lockbourne Rd)
Romaine Harell, Lululemon
Michael Spencer, Lululemon
Bruce Miller, Resident
Nancy Pryor Sully, Senior Legislative Aide, City Council Division of Community Engagement
Beth Fairman Kinney, Neighborhood Liaison, Department of Neighborhoods

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Neale requested that the minutes be amended to include a reference to her request to Tina Mohn and Lawrence Peck regarding park development near Alum Crest Acres. The following text will be added:

“As Chair of the Environmental Committee, Commissioner Neale inquired about developing the former landfill site at Bellevue & Alum Creek Drive as park space. The site is located within the Alum Crest Acres community and has been an environmental concern for the commission.”

Motion to approve the July meeting minutes, with requested additions, by Commissioner Walcott. Seconded by Commissioner Yaashantawa. Motion passes.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Smith delivered the September Treasurer's Report. The beginning balance on August 1, 2021 was \$202.29. The ending balance on September 2, 2021 was \$202.29.

Motion to approve the September Treasurer’s Report by Commissioner Walker. Seconded by Commissioner Draudt. Motion passes.

Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote
Fisher	Yes	Draudt	Yes	Neale	Yes
Walcott	Yes	Patterson	Yes	Walker	Yes
Smith	Yes	Sherman	Yes	Yaashantawa	Yes

Zoning

Demolition Permit, City of Columbus (2266 Lockbourne Road)

Steve Alvarez explained the reason for the demolition request – the structure is old and there are concerns about roof collapse. The area where the building was located will be returned to green space, and the rest of the site will be renovated for uses by the Public Safety department.

Motion to approve the Demolition Permit for 2266 Lockbourne Road by Commissioner Walker. Seconded by Commissioner Fisher. Motion passes.

Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote
Fisher	Yes	Draudt	Yes	Neale	Yes
Walcott	Yes	Patterson	Yes	Walker	Yes
Smith	Yes	Sherman	Yes	Yaashantawa	Yes

BZA21-106 (2200 Spiegel Drive)

Speakers from Lululemon, which occupies the warehouse at 2200 Spiegel Drive, explained their request to install a temporary trailer as a staff breakroom. The purpose is to ensure social distancing and care of employees. The trailer will be in place for six months. Lululemon will return to the commission when plans for a permanent building are prepared.

Motion by Commissioner Walcott to approve application BZA21-106 as written. Seconded by Commissioner Draudt. Motion passes.

Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote
Fisher	Yes	Draudt	Yes	Neale	Yes
Walcott	Yes	Patterson	Yes	Walker	Yes
Smith	Yes	Sherman	Yes	Yaashantawa	Yes

Other Commission Business

City Council Residential Districting Commission Updates

Commissioner Neale shared an update about City Council redistricting map drafts, noting that the Far South Columbus Area Commission is combined with several others in District 6. Franklinton is listed in two districts and she has sought clarification. Commissioner Fisher shared that several commission areas (but not ours) were split across two districts in the draft maps.

Commissioners were encouraged to visit the Council Residential Districting Commission website to share feedback and ask questions. There will be two more rounds of maps, which will be updated using recently released 2020 Census data. Each district should have around 87,000 residents. Commissioner Fisher will add a link to the Districting Commission site on our webpage.

Timing of Commission Meetings

Commissioner Draudt consulted our Bylaws (Page 7), and noted that a start time is not listed for our regular meetings. The Bylaws do list a 6:30 pm start time for the Zoning meeting. If Commissioners wish to change the start time of that meeting, a vote is needed to amend the Bylaws. Commissioners would need to bring their books to a meeting, cross through the time, mark “delete” and have Chair Richardson initial the page.

Motion by Commissioner Fisher to remove the 6:30 pm start time for Zoning meetings from page 7, Article 3, Section 2 of our Bylaws. Seconded by Commissioner Walcott.
Motion passes.

Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote
Fisher	Yes	Draudt	Yes	Neale	Yes
Walcott	Yes	Patterson	Yes	Walker	Yes
Smith	Yes	Sherman	Yes	Yaashantawa	Yes

Commissioner Neale requested feedback about the start time of regular meetings. 6 pm was agreed upon by all present.

Motion by Commissioner Yaashantawa to change the regular commission meeting start time from 6:30 to 6 pm, effective October of 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Draudt.

Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote
Fisher	Yes	Draudt	Yes	Neale	Yes
Walcott	Yes	Patterson	Yes	Walker	Yes
Smith	Yes	Sherman	Yes	Yaashantawa	Yes

Motion by Commissioner Walker to change the Zoning meeting start time from 6:30 to 6 pm starting in September of 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Patterson.

Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote
Fisher	Yes	Draudt	Yes	Neale	Yes
Walcott	Yes	Patterson	Yes	Walker	Yes
Smith	Yes	Sherman	Yes	Yaashantawa	Yes

Upcoming Zoning at Fornoff Road

Commissioner Neale recommend that we arrange a site visit with the applicant before we meet with them at an Area Commission or Zoning meeting. Commissioner Walker will follow up to schedule and send an email to all Commissioners.

Commission Election

Commissioner Draudt reminded attendees that the election will take place from 10 am – 12 pm at the South High Branch of Columbus Metropolitan Library.

Hybrid Commission Meetings

Each Area Commission may opt to allow Commissioners to attend regular meetings virtually. If a commission has a quorum in person, those who cannot attend in person could attend virtually instead. Virtual attendees would be unable to vote on motions. The Commission would need to determine whether virtual attendance should be counted as an absence as defined in our Bylaws. Further discussion was tabled and no vote was taken.

Unfinished Business

- Commissioner Fisher will revisit our conversation about brochures in October.
- Commissioner Neale has contacted Metro Parks about proposed park space at the former landfill site at Bellevue and Alum Creek Drive. She has reached out twice and received no response.

Committee Advisor Reports

Internal Governance | Commissioner Draudt

The election is Saturday, September 11 from 10-12 at the South High Branch of Columbus Metropolitan Library. Three candidates are up for election: Commissioner Patterson, Bruce Miller, and Chair Richardson. We have five at large seats to be filled and three candidates. Commissioner Draudt will bring 75 ballots; we have to have a number on each ballot per our current Bylaws

Health & Human Services | Commissioner Yaashantawa

Commissioner Yaashantawa referred to her emailed report. She promoted Ohio Health's Senior Medical Centers, which feature a full staff of nursing positions, a lab and a pharmacist. Transportation is provided for those in need. Facilities take most insurances and staff are willing to give Commissioners a tour. OhioHealth also provides digital workshops on diabetes and healthy living.

Community Outreach | Commissioner Fisher

There is a community wide cleanup on September 11th. Commissioner Fisher will share by email.

Zoning | Commissioner Walker and Commissioner Patterson

Three Zoning applications are scheduled for hearing at the next Zoning meeting:

- 103 Fornoff Rd (170 unit apartment building)
- 3439 Parsons Rd. (Rubio's Used Tire– operating without a permit and under wrong zoning)
- 3290 Groveport Rd. (paving variance for storage of junk vehicles)

Environmental | Commissioner Neale

Steve Dunbar will be on the regular meeting agenda in October to discuss the status of several environmental concerns in the commission area.

Education | Commissioner Sherman

Commissioner Sherman referred to her emailed report. Columbus Metropolitan Library locations are distributing free at-home COVID-19 test kits through curbside service. Hours of service at the Marion Franklin Branch will be changing to accommodate students during after school hours.

City Reports

Nancy Pryor Sully, Senior Legislative Aide, City Council Division of Community Engagement

Nancy Pryor Sully reiterated the importance of providing feedback on the redistricting process, and referred to the email recently shared by Commissioner Fisher. She reminded Commissioners of the driving tour with City Councilmembers that Commissioner Walker is arranging. She promoted the tentatively scheduled south side Council Community Meeting on September 22nd.

Beth Fairman Kinney, Neighborhood Liaison, Department of Neighborhoods

Beth Fairman Kinney explained that Area Commissions have the option to adopt a new Meeting Decorum Policy, and she read the policy out loud. She updated Commissioners on upcoming training opportunities. Beth is now available for face-to-face meetings in her office at the Reeb Avenue Center; roundtables continue to be virtual. The Greater Columbus Arts Council is sponsoring a mural on Frebis by Alum Creek; painting should begin by mid-September.

Comments from Guests

Bruce Miller updated Commissioners on his emailed concern regarding Columbia Gas, and the impact of their change in practice with joint accounts.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Fisher. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

The next regular meeting is Thursday, October 7th at 6:30 pm at the Marion Franklin Community Center.

Submitted by: Summer Sherman, Recording Secretary