



Minutes | Regular Meeting of the Far South Columbus Area Commission Thursday, January 7, 2021 | 6:30 pm

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:50 pm by Chair Richardson. Followed by the prayer and pledge.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present

Commissioner McElroy
Commissioner Fisher
Commissioner Sherman
Commissioner Neale
Commissioner Smith
Commissioner Walker

Commissioner Patterson
Commissioner Walcott
Commissioner Yaashantawa
Commissioner Draudt
Commissioner Richardson

Commissioners Absent

Commissioner Byrd
Commissioner Ferrell

Guests Present

Eric Zartman, Underhill & Hodge
Bruce Miller, Resident
Tiara Ross, City Attorney's Office
Nancy Pryor Sully, Senior Legislative Advisor
Beth Fairman Kinney, Neighborhood Liaison

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve December minutes by Commissioner McElroy. Seconded by Commissioner Fisher.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Smith provided the Treasurer's Report. The ending balance was \$3,349.09.

Motion to approve the January Treasurer's Report by Commissioner Draudt. Seconded by Commissioner Neale. Motion passes.

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

*Commissioner Yaashantawa was not connected to the Zoom meeting at the time of the roll call vote

Appointments

In alignment with the new Bylaws, Commissioners nominated and voted for officer positions.

Commissioner Patterson nominates Commissioner Richardson for Chair. Seconded by Commissioner Walker. (There were no additional nominations)

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

*Commissioner Yaashantawa was not connected to the Zoom meeting at the time of the roll call vote

Commissioner Richardson nominates Commissioner Neale for Vice Chair. Seconded by Commissioner Patterson. (There were no additional nominations)

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

*Commissioner Yaashantawa was not connected to the Zoom meeting at the time of the roll call vote

Commissioner Patterson nominates Commissioner Smith for Treasurer. Seconded by Commissioner Sherman. (There were no additional nominations)

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

*Commissioner Yaashantawa was not connected to the Zoom meeting at the time of the roll call vote

Commissioner Richardson nominates Commissioner Sherman for Secretary. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. (There were no additional nominations)

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

*Commissioner Yaashantawa connected to the meeting at 7:12 pm

Chair Richardson appointed the following Committee Advisors:

- Internal Governance – Commissioner Draudt
- Health and Human Services – Commissioner Yaashantawa
- Recreation and Parks – Commissioner McElroy
- Outreach – Commissioner Fisher
- Environmental – Commissioner Neale
- Education – Commissioner Sherman
- Zoning – Commissioners Walker & Patterson

Commissioner Ferrell has held the Economic Development committee appointment, but was absent. The Public Safety Committee Advisor position remained vacant.

Zoning

Z20-060 – THORNTONS STATION – DERING RD. & SOUTH HIGH ST.

Eric Zartman with Underhill and Hodge shared a brief presentation regarding the proposed Thorntons Station at Dering Road and South High St.

Application Z20-060 includes requests to modify the commercial overlay, which doesn’t work well for the setup of gas stations. Specifically, the request would:

- Increase building frontage, allowing the Thorntons store to be built in the back of the lot, with gas pumps and parking between the building and the street.
- Reduce the required building size from 60% to 40% of the parcel width (because this parcel is unusually wide).

Mr. Zartman took questions from Commissioners regarding the completed traffic study, signage, building design, and Thorntons practices related to safety and security.

Motion by Commissioner Walker to approve Z20-060 as amended. Seconded by Commissioner Fisher. Motion passes.

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

HARTMAN FARMS FOLLOW UP

Commissioner Walker shared that the Development Commission is hearing the Hartman Farms rezoning on January 14, and solicited any additional comments from commissioners.

*Commissioner McElroy announced that he needed to exit the Zoom meeting at 7:40 pm.

Commission Business

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Richardson shared that she is working on getting bound Bylaws packets distributed. She also shared that the Far South Columbus Area Commission account at Staples, which allows for tax exempt purchases, is still under former Commissioner Watson's name and phone number. Commissioner Richardson will update the group when the account has been switched.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Sherman acknowledged the recent killings of local residents Casey Goodson and Andre Hill at the hands of law enforcement officers, and asked how the Area Commission should continue the conversation about police violence and racism. Commissioner Richardson suggested a discussion at the February meeting.

Commissioner Draudt shared reminders for virtual meetings, and asked that Commissioners notify the group if they are leaving the meeting or stepping away. Commissioner Sherman suggested that Commissioners also review the display name on their Zoom account

Committee Advisor Reports

Community Outreach | Commissioner Fisher

Commissioner Fisher is updating the website with Committee Advisor reports and asked that they continue to be sent her way. Commissioner Fisher will continue to act as the host for regular Zoom meetings, and noted that she could also host a Zoom training for interested Commissioners.

It was requested that the website be updated to note current vacancies (1 open at-large seat, and 1 business seat). Commissioner Draudt clarified that the open seats cannot be filled until the next election cycle, and that appointments must be for one full year.

Resident Bruce Miller asked to speak about his interest in becoming a Commissioner, which was expressed at the November meeting. Commissioners discussed whether an exception to the Bylaws could be made; Mr. Miller chose to defer until the next election. Mr. Miller accepted the role of Public Safety Committee Advisor.

Environmental | Commissioner Neale

Commissioner Neale referred to her emailed report about Closed Loop glass. She also noted that she received feedback from fellow Commissioners regarding UIRF funding, and has had input on the collective application.

Education | Commissioner Sherman

Commissioner Sherman referred commissioners to her emailed report. She highlighted Columbus Metropolitan Library's increasing virtual programming, including the One Book, One Community series.

Zoning | Commissioner Walker and Commissioner Patterson

Commissioners Walker and Patterson noted that they have no Zoning applications at this time.

City Reports

TIARA ROSS, CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Ms. Ross shared that she will transition to the role of General Counsel in the Police/Legal department in February. She introduced her colleague Christopher Clark, who will take over her former duties in Zone 2. Mr. Clark shared his contact information with Commissioners and invited them to reach out.

*Commissioner Yaashantawa announced that she needed to exit the Zoom meeting at 8:35 pm

NANCY PRYOR SULLY

Nancy Pryor Sully shared updates from the City, highlighting:

- the Reimagining Safety Survey
- that applications for the Re-Districting Commission are due January 21
- that nominations are being accepted for the City Council James Preston Poindexter Awards

BETH FAIRMAN KINNEY

Beth Fairman Kinney shared updates from the Department of Neighborhoods, highlighting:

- upcoming Area Commission training
- that the Department of Neighborhoods main office is now at 1410 Cleveland Ave.
- that applications for the Civilian Review Board Working Group are open
- that House Bill 197 is extended until July 1st

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Neale, seconded by Smith. **Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.**

The next regular meeting is Thursday, February 4 at 6:30 pm via Zoom.

Submitted by: Summer Sherman, Recording Secretary