



# Minutes | Regular Meeting of the Far South Columbus Area Commission

Thursday, May 6, 2021 | 6:30 pm

## Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chair Richardson at 6:32.

## Roll Call

### Commissioners Present

Commissioner Fisher	Commissioner Walcott
Commissioner Sherman	Commissioner Draudt
Commissioner Neale	Commissioner Richardson
Commissioner Walker	

### Commissioners Absent

Commissioner Smith (on leave)  
 Commissioner Patterson  
 Commissioner Yaashantawa  
 Commissioner Byrd

### Guests Present

Chad Anderson, Director of FACCES  
 Emerald Hernandez, Department of Neighborhoods, Homeless Advocacy & Neighborhood Safety  
 Fran Ryan, Senior Roundtable  
 Sheila Eubanks, Marion Franklin Civic Association

## Approval of Minutes

**Motion by Commissioner Fisher to approve April minutes.** Seconded by Commissioner Neale. Motion passes.

## Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Draudt presented the Treasurer's Report for May. The starting balance on April 1<sup>st</sup> was \$1759.77. The ending balance was \$391.29 on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion to accept March Treasurer's Report by Commissioner Walcott.** Seconded by Commissioner Fisher. Motion passes.

Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote
Fisher	Yes	Sherman	Yes	Richardson	Yes
Walcott	Yes	Neale	Yes		
Draudt	Yes	Walker	Yes		

Commissioner Draudt presented the budget proposal for May 1, 2021 – April 20, 2022. The City will provide \$2,500. The proposal allots \$1250 to Consumable Supplies and \$1250 to Miscellaneous Expenses.

**Motion to accept the budget as proposed by Commissioner Walcott.** Seconded by Commissioner Neale. Motion passes.

Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote
Fisher	Yes	Sherman	Yes	Richardson	Yes
Walcott	Yes	Neale	Yes		
Draudt	Yes	Walker	Yes		

## **Presentations: Summer Programs & Community Resources**

### **FACCES (Chad Anderson)**

FACCES stands for Family, Adolescent and Child Community Engagement Service. Chad Anderson and his sister built the organization, which is housed on Lockbourne Road. FACCES focuses on fundamentals that are essential for building the whole family, including:

- Jobs
- Health Resources
- Legacy Development (support for entrepreneurs, expanding careers)
- Academic support

Since May of 2020, FAACES has targeted academic support for families and culinary education to address food insecurity. Their efforts include the:

- K-Ready Ohio program, which digitally connects families to pre-K teachers
- Monthly Fresh Market Festival, which provides fresh produce, as well as a variety of social services and educational resource partners

Currently, FACCES is working with the Marion Franklin football team to deliver food to neighbors in need. FACCES is also building an urban greenhouse which will house agriculture and aquaponics programs for far south residents.

Chad Anderson invited residents to reach out to him for assistance and collaboration. He can be reached at:

Phone: 614.319.6070

Email: [director@thefacces.org](mailto:director@thefacces.org)

Web: [www.thefacces.org](http://www.thefacces.org)

### **Homeless Advocacy & Neighborhood Safety (Emerald Hernandez)**

Emerald Hernandez with the Department of Neighborhoods provided updates about homeless encampments on the far south side, highlighting the area between Wendy's and the storage facility on S. High Street. Camps obscured by trees and shrubs were recently removed from this area. The property owner of Wendy's will be hiring special duty police to monitor the vicinity.

Emerald Hernandez discussed wrap around services offered to individuals who are unsheltered. Partners include Maryhaven, Southeast, Inc., Port 45, and community volunteers.

- Outreach teams distribute PPE, food and other essentials.
- The City has a Narcan outreach team, which distributes kits and trains people on Narcan use.
- Shelters are currently decentralized to ensure pandemic safety. Sick shelters have been setup for individuals experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or needing to quarantine. Motels are renting space to assist with deconcentrating shelter residents.
- The City deployed hand washing stations and Porta Johns last spring and are likely to do so again; the City is also exploring options for more permanent public restroom facilities.

The CDC currently recommends that encampments are not cleared to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Remediation is necessary in some cases (e.g. ODOT needs to access a bridge for repairs). This guideline will eventually be lifted, and it is not clear what remediation will look like then. The City and partner agencies are exploring innovative solutions to help break the cycle of homelessness.

### **Senior Services Roundtable (Fran Ryan)**

Fran Ryan was asked to develop and lead the Senior Services Roundtable 12 years ago by Mayor Coleman. The goal was to establish collaboration and un-silo the multitude of organizations serving seniors in central Ohio. The Roundtable is open to anyone who wants to work with seniors and includes agencies providing outreach, social services, and in-home services to older adults. The roundtable meets on the third Wednesday of every month from 1-2 pm. Meetings are currently held virtually.

Roundtable partners include these leaders in health and senior services:

- Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging
- Franklin County Office on Aging
- Columbus Public Health

Current focus areas of the Senior Services Roundtable include housing and pandemic support (e.g. vaccine promotion and access, volunteers making calls to isolated and lonely seniors.)

Contact Information for Fran Ryan:

- Phone number: 614.214.1717
- Email: duffy10@prodigy.net

### **Marion Franklin Resources (Sheila Eubanks)**

Sheila Eubanks, community leader with the Marion Franklin Civic Association, shared information about services in her area. She highlighted a program she spearheaded with staff at the Marion Franklin Recreation Center called the Young Ladies Empowerment Program. This is an open forum for teen girls to discuss topics relevant for them, including conflict management and etiquette. Participants also explore new experiences and activities as a group. The forum is open to girls ages 12-15 and meets every Wednesday from 5:30-6:30.

Sheila Eubanks highlighted other news from the Marion Franklin Community:

- The Recreation Center will be a vaccination site on May 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Genesis launched a produce giveaway, which is held the first Saturday of the month at Marion Franklin High School. Access to food resources is a strength in the community, with a variety of partners offering regular services.
- Roshelle Pate, “the Food Soldier” and a resident of Southfield, was honored with the Spirit of Columbus Award. Dr. Amy Acton was last year’s honoree and presented Rochelle with the award.

### **Columbus Recreation and Parks (Commissioner Fisher)**

Commissioner Fisher provided a report about services from Columbus Recreation and Parks, including hours of operation and programming at the Marion Franklin and Scioto Southland Recreation Centers. Highlights include:

Marion Franklin:

- Senior Hours
- Access to the game room, gym, library, kitchen, and activities like tennis, pickle ball, soccer, arts and crafts, tai chi, ceramics and billiards
- Swimming Pool opening June 9<sup>th</sup> (Requires a Leisure Card and \$1 admission)

Scioto Southland:

- Senior Hours
- Activities like basketball, outdoor fitness, line dancing, billiards, crafts, and more
- Sprayground opens Memorial Day weekend

[Visit columbus.gov/recreationandparks](http://columbus.gov/recreationandparks) for full details about summer programs.

Commissioner Fisher noted that she plans to coordinate a fundraiser to support families with admission to the Marion Franklin pool, working with Southside Hope.

Commissioner Fisher was asked to share additional information about the Wesley Church of Hope. She mentioned an upcoming vaccination clinic and the continuation of monthly produce drops on the second Saturday. She highlighted the launch of monthly outdoor movie screenings for families.

### **Columbus Zoo (Commissioner Richardson)**

Commissioner Richardson attended a presentation about summer opportunities at the Zoo and provided a report. The Zoo is currently accepting applications for summer positions for ages 15 & Up. Positions pay \$9-11 an hour. Teens who are hired will have access to the Zoo bus, which provides transportation to and from work. This program reflects the Zoo’s commitment to serving the community and diversifying their workforce.

## **Columbus Metropolitan Library (Commissioner Sherman)**

Commissioner Sherman highlighted summer programming at the library.

- Summer Reading Challenge starts May 29<sup>th</sup> for children, teens and adults; all participants receive a free book mailed to their home address. Libraries will be offering some outdoor events and targeted, indoor programming this summer.
- Several locations, including the South High Branch, will offer Grab-and-Go Summer Lunch for youth ages 1-18.
- The South High Branch is hosting a Summer Reading and Writing Camp for 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders who need additional academic support. Interested families can pick up an application at the library.
- Columbus Metropolitan Library continues to offer Virtual Events, including the Speak Up / Speak Out series, which engages participants in conversations about racial justice.
- Visitors to the South High Branch can meet with a Social Work Intern from the Ohio State University four days a week; on Tuesdays, a Neighborhood Social Worker from Columbus Public Health provides services.
- Several locations are pick up spots for the PCs for the People program, which provides low cost computers to income eligible individuals and families. More information at [pcsforpeople.org](http://pcsforpeople.org).

## **Zoning**

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The following applications will be discussed at the May Zoning Meeting:

- BZA21-049 – 2918 Parsons Ave – The applicant would like to rezone for storage of motor vehicles
- Z21-040 – 3121 Alum Creek Dr. – The applicant wants to store recreational vehicles on the north end of the lot
- CV21-006 – 1920 Williams Rd. – The applicant wishes to erect a 100 ft. storage barn in the back of the property for commercial storage

Commissioners asked questions about the status of the Hartman Farms sale and noted that the purchaser has not been made public.

## **Other Commission Business**

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### **New Business**

Beth Fairman Kinney read the resignation letter from Commission McElroy. His resignation leaves the Far South Columbus Area Commission with 11 filled seats and 4 vacant seats. Per our Bylaws,

Commissioner McElroy’s seat cannot be filled in the next election because the term would be for less than one year.

**Motion to accept Commissioner McElroy’s letter of resignation by Commissioner Walcott; Draudt seconds. Motion passes.**

Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote	Commissioner Name	Vote
Fisher	Yes	Sherman	Yes	Richardson	Yes
Walcott	Yes	Neale	Yes		
Draudt	Yes	Walker	Yes		

**Unfinished Business**

Commissioner Neale asked clarifying questions regarding who is spearheading neighborhood signage efforts. Beth Fairman Kinney noted that an application recently shared through the Department of Neighborhoods was separate from recent conversations with Councilmember Remy about funding signage. Area Commissions now have the freedom to purchase signs from their budgets. Nancy Pryor Sully will follow up with Councilmember Remy regarding his intent to support signage in the far south.

**City Reports**

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

Nancy Pryor Sully provided updates from the City, including details about May meetings of City Council and the Redistricting Commission. Nancy shared that she participates in the Senior Services Roundtable each Wednesday and will share their list of contacts and brochure.

**Beth Fairman Kinney, Neighborhood Liaison, Department of Neighborhoods**

Beth Fairman Kinney shared updates about COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics, produce drops (golunch.club), and the Virtual Job Fair from My Brother’s Keeper. She reminder Commissioners about community engagement opportunities, including an Aquatics Survey from Columbus Parks and Recreation and meetings for the Columbus City Schools Master Plan.

**Adjournment**

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Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Fisher; seconded by Walker. **Meeting adjourned at 8:44.**

**The next regular meeting is Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm via Zoom.**

Submitted by: Summer Sherman, Recording Secretary