

Far South Columbus Area Commission – Special Regular Meeting Minutes Thursday, July 21, 2022, 7 pm.

Call to Order: Meeting Called to order by Commissioner Richardson at 7:00 pm.

# Roll Call:

**Commissioners Present:** 

Commissioner Richardson

Commissioner Smith

Commissioner Fisher (left at 8:00pm)

Commissioner Eubanks

Commissioner Neale

Commissioner YaAshantawa

Commissioner Patterson

Commissioner Walker

#### Guests:

Katherine Cull, Neighborhood Liaison

David Hooie, Dept. of Neighborhoods

## **Old Business:**

<u>Commissioners' Comments and Concerns:</u> Commissioner Richardson opened the meeting with a review of the events that occurred at and after the July meeting. Commissioner Richardson reviewed the resignation of President, Bonnie Draudt. The Commission was also presented with resignation letters from the Treasurer, Becky Walcott, and Secretary, Bruce Miller. The letters are attached for the record.

Commissioner Richardson then opened the floor and asked commissioners to share their thoughts and concerns about the events that had transpired. Each commissioner was permitted to express their concerns and thoughts.

A discussion ensued about the by-laws and missing language. Several commissioners felt the City of Columbus was responsible for the error. Katherine Cull, Neighborhood Liaison, shared that the Commission is its own governing body and that the City makes recommendations, but by-laws are the responsibility of the commission.

A discussion continued about the environment within the Commission and the events that led to multiple resignations.

### **New Business:**

**Resignations:** Commissioner Richardson submitted her written letter of resignation. Commissioner Neale also submitted her written letter of resignation. Letters are attached as part of the meeting minutes. No vote was taken to accept the letters of resignation.

<u>New Officers</u>: Given the passionate discussions held, the decision was made to postpone selection of officers to allow commissioners time to assess the recent events. Katherine Cull mentioned that a chair for the Internal Governance Committee would be needed to oversee the upcoming election process in September.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Next regular meeting Thursday, September 1, 2022, 6 pm, at the Columbus Fire Training Academy.

Submitted by: Commissioner Lori Fisher

Delores Richardson 2440 Lawndale Ave Columbus, Ohio 43207

July 21, 2022

Far South Columbus Area Commission P.O. Box 7691 Columbus, Ohio 43207-06911

To Area Commissioners and Department of Development:

Commissioner I write this resignation letter with a lifted spirit for my family and my inner soul. I leave with knowing that I have done my share to mend and build a unified commission although through the last past weeks I have learned that all my efforts have been in vain. I can no longer answer to my higher power and stay on the commission, I believe that my efforts will be better served in a community initiative that support growth and brighter outcomes for the community. This is not good-bye but see you in the community doing good deeds.

I wish you well,

Respectfully.

Delores Richardson



# Resignation

1 message

Becky Walcott < bwalcott65@gmail.com>

Thu, Jul 14, 2022 at 3:17 PM

To: "Cull, Katherine H." <KHCull@columbus.gov>, Delores Richardson <drichardson2442@gmail.com>

Hello Delores and Katherine,

After a great deal of reflection I have decided to leave the FSCAC effective immediately. I will work with whoever to get my items and Bonnie's items she left in my care back to the Commission. I can have these items available for pickup Monday, July 18th or a later date if necessary after I return from a business trip the 19th through the 22nd.

I have received Petitions of Candidacy from Eileen Neale, Deborah Smith and Connie Miller so far and will include them in my belongings.

Best Regards, Becky Walcott

Becky Walcott

Far South Columbus Block Watch Coordinator 614-927-7040

- 10 Ways to succeed with zero talent.
- 1. Be on time
- 2. Show up and do the work
- 3. Give your best
- 4. Be positively contagious
- 5. Have an attitude of gratitude
- 6. Seek Solutions
- 7. Have Passion
- 8. Be coachable
- 9. Do more than what's required
- 10. Believe in yourself

Rev. Bonnie A. Draudt 3796 Whetstone Street Groveport, Ohio 43125 614-507-3650

July 7, 2022

City of Columbus
Department of Neighborhoods
David Hooie
Katherine Cull
Far South Columbus Area Commission

Dear David, Katherine and Commissioners:

I respectfully resign as Chair and Commissioner of the Far South Columbus Area Commission effectively July 7, 2022, at 11:59 pm. It has been a joy and privilege to serve the City of Columbus as a Commissioner and to work with all of you.

Respectfully,

Rev. Bonnie A Draudt

Rev. Bonnie a. Draudt

Bruce C. Miller, II 3352 Parsons Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43207

July 18, 2022

Far South Columbus Area Commission P.O. Box 7691 Columbus, Ohio 43207-0691

To the members of the Commission:

By copy of this letter, I am hereby resigning as an Area Commissioner on the Far South Columbus Area Commission effective at 12 noon on July 18, 2022. I also am informing the remaining membership of the Area Commission that as per Section 6 Part B of the Far South Columbus Area Commission By-Laws, that I am waiving my 30 day right to rescind my resignation and intend this letter to be my final act as a member of this organization. I do not intend to return, and you may place my seat up as being vacant at the special meeting on July 21, 2022.

I do not make this decision lightly, nor has it been made without much consultation with trusted friends, advisors, loved ones and my higher power. However, I feel that the Far South Columbus Area Commission is an organization that has lost its stated purpose and intent as found in Article 3 Section 1 parts A and B inclusive of the group's By-Laws. Additionally, many members of this organization choose to follow the by-laws as they see fit, rather than as written, or as a matter of convenience to the benefit of the membership of the organization, and not the benefit of those who elected or appointed us to the body. Finally, as a body, the Far South Columbus Area Commission has not learned from its past mistakes, nor does it honor its promises made in writing by leadership of change and reform, to benefit the organization and by doing such changes the community at large, which is who as commissioners the group is elected or appointed to serve.

I wish this group well in their pathway forward, and I pray that at some point as a body the Commission finds its collective moral compass.

Respectfully.

Bruce C. Miller, II

Eileen Neale 2488 Liston Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43207

Date: Thursday July 21, 2022

To: The City of Columbus

Department of Neighborhoods

Mr. David Hooie Ms. Katherine Cull

Please accept this letter as my resignation from the position as a commissioner on the Far South Columbus Area Commission. Effective today July 21, 2022.

On a personal note I would like to offer my thanks to Council Member Remy for his support in obtaining community signage for the Cambria Community. Also, my thanks goes to Steve Dunbar City Prosecutor's office and his staff for closure of the Landfill site; at Bellevue and Alum Creek Drive and continues to enforce compliance issues with the owners of this operation. One of the largest environmental issues impacting the Far South Side was Ace/Iron Metal on Groveport Road. Thanks for the support in ensuring the piles/stacks were reduced and will continue in that manner.

I have served on this body for 12 years, and my objective was to always be of service to the communities we serve. I am going to leave on that premise, and allow my work to speak for me.

Respectfully Submitted:

Eileen Neale