



**Far South Columbus Area Commission – Commission Meeting Minutes Thursday, January 5, 2023, 6 pm.**

**Call to Order:** Meeting Called to order by Chairperson Walcott at 6:10 pm.

**Roll Call:**

**Commissioners Present:**

Commissioner Smith	Commissioner Eubanks
Commissioner Pate (6:51 p.m.)	Commissioner Walker
Commissioner C. Miller	Commissioner B. Miller
Commissioner Patterson	Commissioner Walcott
Commissioner Fisher	

**Commissioners Absent:**

Commissioner YaAshantawa

9 commissioners present; 1 commissioner absent; 0 commissioners excused  
A quorum is present.

**Guests:**

Sgt. Fuqua, Columbus Police	Sheronda Byrd, Applicant for vacant seat
John Williams, Applicant	Aaron Wasserman, Homeport
Elaine Rudolph, resident	Michele Williams, resident
Nicalus Hurst, Humbly Aligned, Inc.	Laura Comek, Attorney (Homeport)
Claire Dean, Humbly Aligned, Inc.	Emily Myers, Heer to Serve
Ben Sutcliffe, Heer to Serve	Armando Telles, Ohio Voice

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes as submitted from the December 1, 2022, meeting was made by Commissioner Walker, and was seconded by Commissioner Smith. A voice vote was held by Chairperson Walcott:

8 commissioners were in favor. 0 commissioners abstained. Minutes approved.

**Treasurer's Report for November:** Commissioner Connie Miller, the treasurer, reported a beginning balance on 11/26/2022 of \$2534.40. Expenses were listed in her detailed written report. The ending monthly balance on 12/26/2022 was \$2378.64, with an available balance to the Area Commission of \$2287.35 (due to the funds owed to the City from 2 years ago).

Motion made by Commissioner Fisher to accept the Treasurer's Report as read;  
Seconded by Commissioner Smith.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Walker	Yes	C. Miller	Yes	B. Miller	Yes
Fisher	Yes	Patterson	Yes	Walcott	Yes
Smith	Yes	Eubanks	Yes		

8 Yes      0 Nays      0 Abstentions      Motion passes

**Chair Commissioner Walcott gave the floor to Commissioner Walker, Zoning Co-Chair.**

**Z22-001 & CV22-138 2870 Alum Creek Drive Columbus Ohio 43207 :** The applicant (Homeport) was represented by their attorney Laura Comek. This is being heard to complete the 2-step zoning process for the financing of this property and to address changes related to having private roadways in the property as opposed to city-maintained streets. There also was discussion about concerns presented to the Commission by the Alum Crest Acres Civic Association.

Motion made by Commissioner Walker to approve Z22-001 and CV22-138 for 2870 Alum Creek Drive, Seconded by Commissioner Eubanks.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
C. Miller	Yes	Eubanks	Yes	B. Miller	Yes
Walker	Yes	Patterson	Yes	Walcott	Yes
Fisher	Yes	Smith	Yes		

8 Yes      0 Nays      0 Abstentions      Motion passes

**Zoning BZA22-166 897 Lock Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43207:** After discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Patterson and seconded by Commissioner Fisher to table this matter until further notice.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Eubanks	Yes	C. Miller	Yes	B. Miller	Yes
Walker	Yes	Smith	Yes	Walcott	Yes
Patterson	Yes	Fisher	Yes		

8 Yes      0 Nays      0 Abstentions      Motion passes

No other zoning business.

**Speakers:**

**Sgt. Fuqua, Columbus Division of Police, Community Response Team**

Sergeant Fuqua is the new sergeant that is leading the 13<sup>th</sup> precinct Community Response Team. A brief overview of what the CRT is and the kinds of operations they are involved in was given and a question-and-answer session was held. There was also discussion about the April 2023 splitting of the 13<sup>th</sup> police precinct and Zone 2 to re-align police staffing to better match staffing with run volume. His phone number is (614) 645-4100 and email is [jfuqua@columbuspolice.org](mailto:jfuqua@columbuspolice.org).

A discussion was then held about the acquisition of the video camera and microphone that had been previously approved by the Area Commission with Katherine Cull, our liaison from Department of Neighborhoods. The discussion centered about how the video feed would be stored, streamed and what service would be used for such. 40% of other Area Commissions approximately are already doing this according to Katherine after a poll of the other commissions that she took. Katherine suggested that comments be disabled to prevent spamming or posting of inappropriate commentary on any feed such as profanity. All commissioners were given the chance to comment individually.

**Committee Reports:**

**Community Outreach:** written report to follow, informational flyer on homebuyer seminar on back table.

**Economic Development:** proposed meeting date is cancelled due to unavailability of library due to double booking of meeting space. Request made of all members to email available dates to the Co-Chairs. Please read the articles distributed at this evenings meeting about new projects that will impact economic development in our community.

**Education:** open

**Environmental:** open

**Executive and Resource:** no report

**Public Safety:** written report on back table

**Health and Human Services:** no report

**Internal Governance:**

**Appointment of Ms. Sheronda Byrd to a vacant business seat:** After discussion amongst the commission members a motion was made to appoint Ms. Sheronda Byrd to a vacant business seat on the Far South Columbus Area Commission by Commissioner B. Miller and seconded by Commissioner Smith.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Patterson	Yes	Eubanks	Yes	Pate	Yes
Walker	Yes	C. Miller	Yes	B. Miller	Yes
Fisher	Yes	Smith	Yes	Walcott	Yes

9 Yes      0 Nays      0 Abstentions      Motion passes

**Recreation and Parks:** no report.

**Other Commission Business:**

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

Discussion of the holiday events at the Recreation Centers was held. Both the Scioto Southland and Marion Franklin Recreation Center had fantastic turnout and hats, gloves, coats as well as toys and other resources were distributed to members of the community.

Commissioner Miller as chair of Public Safety Committee made a request of the commission members to take the next month and consider if the members of the commission wish to continue the advocacy on behalf of the community with the City government and the Fire Department about the issue of response times, what fire department responds to our emergency calls and the issue of our residents being issued bills and sent to collection agencies, all problems that no other area of the city has. We have advocated and requested for city involvement on this issue for 2 years with no success and have been ignored. Commissioner Miller has requested that the members of the commission think of how they as a body wish to proceed.

Commissioner Walker made a request to send a letter to the City requesting a traffic study on Alum Creek Drive from Williams Road to State Route 104 to look at the addition of cross walks and pedestrian crossing signals, as currently at the warehouses and the new proposed Homeport senior housing community that the area commission voted on recently, people have to run across 5 lanes of traffic to catch a COTA bus or to access businesses.

A motion to have the Public Safety Committee Chair (Commissioner B. Miller) send a letter to the City Traffic Engineering Department to investigate and study crosswalk placement and pedestrian signal placement on Alum Creek Drive between State Route 104 and Williams Road was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Smith. A voice vote was held and passed unanimously by all commissioners.

**City Reports:**

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

Report as written. Nancy gave additional info on the City Council vacant seat appointment process and the redistricting including information contained within a video on the city YouTube channel. Nancy also gave information about the warming centers that are being operated within the city.

**Katherine Cull, Neighborhood Liaison, Department of Neighborhoods**

Report as written, plus congratulations to our treasurer as being the first to turn in the fiscal mid-year report out of all the Southside Commissions.

**City Zone Attorney Christopher Clark:** Zone Attorney Clark held a discussion about several of the blighted properties that various members of the community and the area commission have concerns about and where those properties are in the Environmental Court and Code enforcement process. A discussion was held about the process and how items are handled.

Zone Attorney Clark held a discussion about the case he has filed against Columbus Auto Shredding and their alleged illegal activities.

**Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Patterson; Seconded by Commissioner Eubanks. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.**

All in favor 9, opposed 0, abstain 0. Motion passes

**Next regular meeting Thursday, February 2, 2023, 6 pm, at the Columbus Fire Training Academy.**

Submitted by: Commissioner Bruce Miller, Recording Secretary