

Southwest Area Commission (SWAC)  
February 21, 2018 Minutes  
Prepared for approval by Liz Reed

Chair: Stefanie Coe  
Vice Chair: Don Parsons  
Secretary: Elizabeth (Liz) Reed  
Fiscal Officer: David Kerr

Meeting Location: New Horizons United Methodist Church  
1665 Harrisburg Pike, Columbus, OH 43223

7:05 p.m. Meeting called to order

**Commissioners**

Present: Stefanie Coe, David Kerr, Felisa Jenkins, Don Parsons, Barbara Parsons, Elizabeth Reed  
Absent: Maurice Jenkins, Juanita Kaufman, Gail Rowat

Commission meeting called to order by Stefanie Coe.

Pledge of Allegiance

**Chair's Announcement(s):**

Correction to previous minutes: Absent members should indicate Gail Rowat. Melanie Coplan name should be removed.

Southwest Square graphic requests for variance for more signage. The sign is to address retail challenges. Small shops face Eakin, but Eakin Rd. has half the traffic count. They are requesting 3 panels from one sign to create additional signage to be on a single pylon sign. The plan is to use existing sign and break it down into 3 panels. Increasing number of signs. This requires three variances: height of sign now 20, set back, shopping center ID not 50% of signage. There were no previous issues due to being grandfathered in. Since they are requesting a change to the sign they are asking to permit for all three changes.

David Kerr moved to accept, Liz Reed seconded. All in favor, no opposed.

Presentation by Dr. Tina Pierce, she explained an online survey and encouraged responses by Commissioners. She then explained the process of gathering additional information. SWAC stated that training is not the problem, but the lack of tools are.

A retreat is planned in April or May, not on a holiday at the Jerry Hammond building.

Babbitt Bearings wants outbuilding on their lot because they needs more room. Al Borline: provided handouts with detail 2079 Frank Rd. They wants to replace an out building and non-illuminated building. Since 1939, operated as home business. The plan is to replace 10x12 with a 48x60. They are in the business of boring holes in which precision is required. It can take days to bore a single hole—FYI: Babbitt is the metal that the holes are bore into.

SICGroup76, includes re-Babbling, same use for 77 years. The lot size is 650+ deep by 70 wide. Code 1950-1996. 1) Lot area to 29.9% from 20% 2) 5520 sq. ft. in two accessories building from 720 sq. ft. 3) allow signage in residential. Additional space would allow for an additional employee. City water and sewerage.

Liz Reed made motion to support the variances, Barb Parsons seconded, and all approved support of the variances requested at 2079 Frank Rd.

Nora Gerber from Department of Neighborhoods discussed Neighborhood Pride. SWAC filed an application. They received about 20 and plan to approve 4. There are at least two other west neighborhood applications—Hilltop (Georgian Heights, Westland, and Scioto Meadows) Benefits included extra programming around mobility explained each night and a possible mural. May, June, July and Sept are targeted months. Decision should come mid-March. A Commission member suggest adding voter registration.

Mr. Lyons: Columbus Community Bill of Rights. City ordinance to stopping fracking waste storage, in our wastewater. 10s of millions of gallons of waste, including carcinogenic materials. Ohio is storing waste from Pennsylvania and Indiana, drill waste. Naturally radioactive trying to get it on the ballot. Letting people know, all concerned citizens, Com-Fest, etc. Trying to get community bill of rights where states have taken away the rights. If enough votes, then City Council can choose to adopt, if not then they will go to the voters.

October Minutes: David Kerr made the motion, Don Parsons seconded, all approved. Corrected Donald to Don.

January Minutes “Donald” changed to “Don”—change to add that neighbors did not come out discuss the building of the Forensic Center and the reason for rejecting the proposal. David made the motion, Don Parsons seconded, all voted yes.

Stefanie Coe proposed to make motion to approve \$1680 to pay rent through June 2018 instead of the original \$1200. David Kerr made the motion, Stefanie Coe seconded, and all approved.

Adjournment

Member moved to adjourn the meeting was seconded and unanimous approval to adjourn.

Next Meeting March 21, 2018