Southwest Area Commission
Meeting Place: New Horizons United Methodist Church
1665 Harrisburg Pike, Columbus, Ohio 43223

Southwest Area Commission (SWAC)
Prepared for approval by Liz Reed

Chair: Stefanie Coe
Vice Chair: FeLisa Jenkins
Secretary: Elizabeth (Liz) Reed
Fiscal Officer: David Kerr

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

Minutes for: March 20, 2019

7:00 p.m. Meeting called to order.
Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioners
Present: Stefanie Coe, Peggy Fossett (arrived at 7:25), FeLisa Jenkins, Maurice Jenkins, Don Parsons, Barbara Parsons, Liz Reed, Patty Spencer, George Wagner
Absent: David Kerr

Routine Business:

7:05pm-7:25pm Zoning Update
  1) Stephen Dunbar, Columbus City Attorney’s Office: Section Chief, Zone Initiative

Mr. Dunbar’s office handles the nuisance/abatement complaints. He took on Roof to Roads, owned by Steve Johnson. The problem has persisted for over 10 years and Roof to Road went out of business. They left the shingles on the property despite the numerous efforts by the city to have them moved. The Shelly Company, and asphalt company, has a need for them. Mr. Dunbar will work with Steve Johnson to give the shingles to the Shelly Company if they can be shredded on the site. It will take the Shelly Company about two years to clean up and remove the shingles. Roof to Road will also need to remove equipment left on the property. It will take a year to shred the shingles on site. The property is already zoned to allow for shredding. Due the limitations in the about of shingles that can be used in asphalt, Shelly can only take so many of the shingles at a time. The estimated shredding times will be Monday through Friday 6a-6p. Due to the remote location of the parcel, behind the cremation building, no one raised issues about the hours. Requests from Commission members included, that the shingles need to stay in the immediate area for shredding and that water and/or other dust deterrents need to be used to shred. Stefanie Coe and Judge Hawkins
looked at records to see the verification of shingles met standards set to check for asbestos. While not every shingle was tested, the records show the shingles were from legitimate sources.

Michelle Delzell, and neighbor, is concerned that the Shelly Company’s EPA attorney, may not be as motivated to ensure environmental protections as the EPA. According to a website that she looked up, that it’s safe to assume based upon what she read that all shingles may have asbestos in them every year they have been manufactured, but she needs to look into it further. Mr. Dunbar stated that is not accurate.

Mr. Dunbar will bring back the concerned raised by the Commission members. Our biggest concerns are asbestos concerns and dust control.

In regard to another parcel at 1399 Stimmel, behind Franklin Manor, they do have a 2016 case pending. They have been ordered to clean it up and they are running up fines. They sold the property to Kirk Excavating. They bought it late last year or early this year and are working to move stuff off of the property.

MORPC representatives Bernice Cage, Sr. Public & Diversity Officer and Robert Williams, Residential Services Director presented the following information:

Air quality alerts and ozone level alerts started. They have even monitors around the county and they monitors for dust and other pollutants in the air and provide alerts when the air quality is at high levels. By calling the office, they can connect you to Brooke White who can tell you where the monitors are placed.

Go Ohio will assist people getting to work, regardless of income. Contact 888.742.7433(RIDE) or gohion@morpc.org.

2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan is being built. It should be complete by end of spring. When projects come out, be sure to post review and provide feedback as soon as possible to ensure projects are finalized. If you know of things that should be on the plan that are not they need to know. MORPC will get post cards and email notices out when they are ready for review.

Census for 2020 is coming up. We need to get an accurate count. The more people the more funds that will flow in.

Other announcements: Free services-hand out including weatherization services. This is for renters and home owners. This is size of household based in terms of free services. Available to all of Franklin County residents. Sign up by calling, they will ask quite a few questions. All electric homes have limited checks. If you don’t meet the guidelines Columbia Gas will talk to those families, but they will need to pay and get reimbursed most of the cost.
714 Stimmel – Continued Discussion
Stefanie took pictures of the site. They site seems to be out of compliance with current zoning. Piles of concrete, etc. needs to be taken care of because they are not permitted to have clean hard fill. They have code orders. Representative are not here tonight, they need to discuss further. She likely will not be here in April, but maybe in May.

Regular Reports
1) Beth Fairman Kinney, City of Columbus Neighborhood Liaison announced the Southside pride, zone 13 and 11.

   New partner Goodwill-getting in to IT, ST&A jobs,

   Columbus Litter league, baseball theme, Sat., May 18, as a team sign up and go through. Website is Alexis Keyes, and Christen, and Litter Kickers post up. Encouraging specific zones. They are focused in different zones in the city. If there is an area that needs cleaned outside the targeted zones, then citizen groups can coordinate with Keep Columbus Beautiful. Currently, they are having prisoners do litter pickups as they were before.

   Rob Dorans will be at Georgesville Rd. March 30 11:30-1 and Amy’s donuts and Parsons Ave.

   Neighborhood pride applications are due prior to next year. We had it once in our area in 2010.

2) Officer Shay, Columbus Police Department announced that citizens can download an app ‘neighborsbyring’ to upload crime related video from your cameras, i.e. home surveillance cameras.

   April 1 to October 1 the city is running a program, if you want to report crime activity such as suspected drug activity, speeding, gang, etc. various city agencies such a code enforcement are working with police to create a React team. This team can do more to help make an impact.

   Discussions of problem properties were discussed by commissioners and members of the public. Steven helped answer questions regarding fines and it take a while to get to the fine and it will take a while. Those funds from fines go into funding zoning programs. Stefanie emphasized the importance of call in 311 so it gets into system.

3) Franklin Township

Chair’s Announcements
Southwest to Southeast Columbus Taskforce (SSCT)
Reached out to Far South area commission and South Commission and trying to get a group together. No dates and no agenda yet.

Speeding traps on Franklin Township. They can sit outside jurisdiction, to watch within their district. You and attend a Township meeting.

Review Minutes

Will defer voting on the minutes from Feb. They were sent out several weeks ago, please read them in advance so that we can be prepared to vote on them in advance of the next meeting.

Unfinished Business
   Logo Selection
   Business Card & T-Shirt Information

Next Meeting: April 17, 2019