



West Scioto Area Commission

# West Scioto Area Commission

Thursday, August 18, 2022

Hilltop Public Library

511 S. Hague Avenue

Columbus, OH

7:00 P.M.

## Regular Meeting Minutes

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by Commissioner Russell.

### Roll Call

Present: Eli Bohnert, Treasurer Rita Cabral, Leyila Cabus, Brian Endicott, Eric Russell, Larry Weber

### Approval of Previous Minutes

Commissioner Russell called for a motion to approve the July 2022 minutes. Commissioner Bohnert moved to approve. Commissioner Cabral seconded. The minutes were approved.

### City of Columbus Reports

#### Division of Police Liaison

Officer Tom Paulus was not in attendance.

#### Department of Neighborhoods Liaison

Rebecca Deeds

- Area Commission Training will be held on September 10, 2022. The presentation is titled Improving Engagement and Communication: Valuing Difference
- Training for new commissioners is Wednesday, September 14, 2022.

#### Columbus City Council, Division of Community Engagement Legislative Advisor

Averi Townsend

- City Council will return on September 12, 2022.
- City Council is still accepting interns.

## Zoning Committee Report

Zoning Chair, Commissioner Endicott

Commissioner Endicott reported the zoning committee did not meet in August and there were no applications this month. The September meeting will be held August 31, 2022.

## Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Commissioner Cabral

Balance July 21, 2022		\$2607.78
Expenditures:		
Rising Moon T Shirts	73.59	
Constant Contact month	20.00	
Bank Balance August 18, 2022		\$2514.19

An upcoming expense being considered is a six-foot-long table cloth with the WSAC logo. Cost estimate is \$260.

## Committee Reports

Communication Committee

Chair, Commissioner Cabral

Commissioner Cabral:

- Thanked everyone who helped with National Night Out
- Explained that the WSAC web page will be changed to coordinate with the QR code that will appear on the zoning variance notification signs being purchased for the Planning Committee.
- Provided the link, Development Applications, that visitors can use on the Home Page of the WSAC web site that will take them to zoning applications that are under consideration by the City of Columbus.
- Discussed how to communicate with the public when contact is made on WSAC's Facebook, Constant Contact, or NextDoor platforms. The public should send their emails to the commission's email address at [westsciotoarea@gmail.com](mailto:westsciotoarea@gmail.com). When the agenda is posted on Facebook, there will be a footnote with the WSAC Gmail address along with a statement that the commission doesn't respond to questions posed on Facebook.
- Proposed that WSAC establish a relationship with Franklin Township as some of the West Scioto Area properties are close in relationship to that township.
- Liaison Deeds suggested Jamie Fisher would be a good contact to establish a similar working relationship with Norwich Township.

Nominations Committee

Chair, Commissioner Russell

Commissioner Russell had no nominations to make. He is talking to schools in an effort to fill the student seat on the commission.

Planning Committee

Chair, Commissioner Weber

Commissioner Weber:

- Stated that the main job of the planning committee is to develop consensus statements about preferred uses of various properties.
- Said the Planning Committee will come up with the plans but the WSAC will have to approve them.
- The WSAC plans would then be presented to the city's development commission with a general statement of preference. This would give WSAC the opportunity to provide input.
- Has asked the Franklin County Auditor for large detailed maps that would be sectioned to indicate land use preferences
- Discussed where WSAC fits in the planning process.

Liaison Deeds said BZA has a flow chart of which departments receive applications and when they receive them in the process. She clarified that the city looks at standards when approving permits while the West Scioto Area Commission is looking at the best use for properties in the area.

Commissioner Russell suggested that city hall should know what WSAC is planning rather than approving random development.

## **New Business**

Commissioner Cabral proposed that the commission amend the by-laws concerning the student position to read that, if it isn't filled by a student, the student position can be filled by an adult. Discussion on the topic included the need for a nine-member commission because the current eight members can result in a tie vote which is a failed vote.

Liaison Deeds stated that any change to the by-laws would have to be reviewed by Rob Tobias and Dave Hooie. She reported that the current by-laws state that one at-large commissioner "shall" be a high school student and, to simplify the change of the by-laws, the word "shall" could be changed to "may." Any change would require two readings and must be submitted in writing.

## **Adjournment**

Commissioner Russell called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cabus so moved.  
Commissioner Bohnert seconded. The motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Mischnick

(DRAFT FOR APPROVAL)