

# North Central Area Commission Meeting

## March 5, 2020

### Ohio Dominican University, Student Center

Web site: [ncacolumbus.wix.com/ncac](http://ncacolumbus.wix.com/ncac)

Facebook: North Central Area Commission

**Call to Order:** Tiffany White called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m. Bee Tolber prayed the invocation.

#### Roll Call:

*Commissioners Present:* Alfonso Hooper, Reno Lemons, Jessica Martin, Wallace McLean, Bee Tolber, Tiffany White, Asmara Williams

*Absent:* Lorenzo Brent (unexcused), Carl Lee (unexcused)

#### Presentations;

- **Dianne Radigan, Columbus State Issue 21 Levy.** They have been focusing on student success this last decade, offering more classes and training, and partnering with the businesses in town. Campus is old (average age of buildings are 43 years) so need additional dollars for upgrading infrastructure. Ohio General Assembly allowed for additional colleges to pursue bond issues so on March 17<sup>th</sup> they are asking for a bond issue of \$300 million dollars (\$1 per month increase per \$50,000 property valuation). There is a lot of disparity in our community and they believe education is the key to changing. They raised money for media campaign (individuals, corporations funded). When asked about community involvement/outreach, she said they teach classes at local high schools, focused on helping student succeed, mid-ohio foodbank pantry, and work with students who take remedial classes (able to work at their own pace to get through them more quickly). Faculty are in some high schools but she unsure about our area (at Linden Mckinley – 90 students may not be graduating).
  - What are you doing to attract minority students to the college/ reaching out to high schools?
  - Other community colleges (i.e., Sinclair) have been funded this way for years, but this is the first time Columbus State has been able to.
- **Chassidy Barham, Assistant City Attorney,** update on A-Z Recycling – Code gave them until April 15<sup>th</sup> to get the piles into compliance. If not, they will file a public nuisance complaint; process after that: injunction hearing, judge would give them another time; then permanent injunction (court order), given another amount of time; then if still not fixed, they would be held in contempt and be fined each day. They don't have a real fence (old aluminum siding) that falls down often – she will ask Code Enforcement. Also she will be riding with Officer Zacher soon.
  - Introduced **Christopher Clark, Assistant City Prosecutor**, who just started, will be working on illegal dumping and retaliatory evictions across the city. We can send/email him references if there are landlord tenant issues or illegal dumping issues. He wants to do a tour of our Commission, we let him know about dumping by the trails and refer 1000 Joyce Avenue.
- **The Story Lounge, 5<sup>th</sup> and Joyce, Kenneth Smith and Amer** – They got the property in December and know there have problems in the past. They have done a lot of renovations, built a new fence, new blacktop, lighting, cameras etc. They have cut the grass and cleaned up the property (will also clean up the parking lot across the street), trying not to make it an eye sore. Officer Zacher viewed the inside and it looks good. Their focus is security: Columbus Police will be outside for events and on the weekends. There will be a restaurant in the front (different tenant who had a food truck - Blessings Food). Hours will be 3 or 4 PM (happy hour) til late, there will be lottery and keyno, music, TVs, venue space to rent, and a nice patio with firepits; dress code, min. age of 25. We can tour the facility and they want to help with events too. One of the owners also owns Pita House in Bexley. Planning to open in April.

## Old Business/Announcements:

- Bylaws Revision - Reading #2: Change in Sections 5.1.F and 5.1.G from “Department of Development” to “Department of Neighborhoods”. Jessica Martin motioned to approve, Asmara Williams seconded. All in favor.

**Budget:** \$1266.59 is what we have in our account.

**Community Liaison Report:** Alfred Akainyah; his phone is 614-645-7964, cell 614-678-2605, email:

[aaakainyah@columbus.gov](mailto:aaakainyah@columbus.gov). – Announcements: free clinic in Linden (income < \$56k); sent records retention schedule; new funding schedule: March - MOU discussions, April - proposed budget, vote on MOU, May 1<sup>st</sup> – send MOU's, May 31<sup>st</sup> – closeout report due (he will email); CTA training is required to be RNNC volunteer (Tiffany White asked if the RFP has gone out for proposals? Do we know the fee yet? Alfred Akainyah will ask Beth and Toya to information regarding this); bylaws – now office terms across all should be 3 years (we need to change to this but will not require 3 readings); need Mr. Hooper's paperwork; and Commissioner training on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

## Community Forum:

- **Luis Gil, running for County Commissioner**, he is pro-education, housing, and taxes but maybe they are coming too many times to get tax credits; education system is in despair; a lot of the broken systems but the same people have been in the charge ; he is pro sports but the tax credits are burdening our community and just end up costing more money for maintenance or are not providing the results that were expected (development, taxes going back down); pro small business, how can we invest the small business who are actually doing good in the area; need the community and government to work together to actually improve the education system; \$1.48 billion dollar budget; focus on working together with the community;
- **Mayo Makinde, running for 25<sup>th</sup> State Representative**, improving public's perspective of politicians, serves on the South Linden Area Commission, he has a track record of fighting for his community and wants to do it statewide. He wants to empower neighborhood organizers. Plans to hold monthly meetings with minority business owners and faith-based, wants to include community leaders in the future. Bring the community together and come up with solutions and actions that he can take. Better jobs, \$15 minimum wage, support for small businesses and entrepreneurs – one stop shop that is State funded; he has been consistent in his fighting for the community.

## Police Liaison Report:

Officer Tony Rogers, 7<sup>th</sup> Precinct Liaison Officer, [arogers@columbuspolice.org](mailto:arogers@columbuspolice.org) (614-645-1407) – N/A.

Officer Alesia Zacher, 5<sup>th</sup> Precinct Liaison Officer [azacher@columbuspolice.org](mailto:azacher@columbuspolice.org) (614-645-1405) – N/A.

**City Council Liaison:** Sandra Lopez, [srlopez@columbus.gov](mailto:srlopez@columbus.gov), 614-645-8502. Not present.

## Committee Reports

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Wallace McLean, Carl Lee

- 66 new contractors/investor to build homes; Kroger bakery sold recently; Maryland Avenue being rezoned; and old Makin building will be a restaurant/lounge.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Airport: Alfonso Hooper and Wallace McLean: April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting at ODU gym; time not yet decided.
- Elections/Bylaws Procedures: Information and election box to Alfonso Hooper. Open seats: At-Large (3 seats) - Incumbents: Lorenzo Brent and Wallace McLean, Vacant (1-year term expires 2021); Argyle Park - Incumbent: Carl Lee; Brentnell - Vacant (1-year term expires 2021); Devon Triangle; Shepard -Incumbent: Jessica Martin; St. Mary's - Vacant (1-year term expires 2021); Teakwood Heights; and Woodland-Holt.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. with prayer by Bee Tolber.