

North Central Area Commission Meeting
November 7, 2019
Ohio Dominican University, Student Center
Web site: ncacolumbus.wix.com/ncac
Facebook: North Central Area Commission

Call to Order: Tiffany White called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. Bee Tolber prayed the invocation.

Presentations/Community Forum:

- Mary Ellen O'Shaughnessy, Franklin County Clerk of Courts, and Nick Tuell, her Communications Director. They handle the more serious crimes, civil cases, auto titles, and juvenile traffic. Clerk vs. court duties? To avoid the appearance of judicial bias, she sets and manages the dockets. Going forward she wants to have better physical circumstances for family and children civil cases (domestic and juvenile section), rather than queuing up. They have a good website including a case information search. \$15 minimum wage starting salary, her office started this a while ago.
- Morgan Harper, running for third district congressional seat in Congress (we are in the third district right now) and her intern, Andre. She was raised on the east side, adopted out of foster care. She is a lawyer, previously worked in the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). The inequality is only getting worse; she is focused on living wage, housing, environmental, and healthcare. Morgan Harper submitted a letter to the Franklin County Democratic Party requesting the County Party not endorse only one candidate but educate that there are multiple choices.
 - Voter suppression question – St. Stephen's voting machines had to re-set multiple times because some of the candidates were not showing up.
 - Talked about area commissions meeting together more often to share; Morgan Harper is trying to connect the dots across the City and build coalitions to help make policy changes.

Roll Call:

- *Commissioners Present:* Reno Lemons, Alfonso Hooper (arrived 6:30 PM), Jessica Martin, Wallace McLean, Bee Tolber (had to leave at 6:25), Tiffany White,
- *Absent:* Lorenzo Brent, Carl Lee, Asmara Williams (excused)

Zoning

- Jared Norton, from Morrison Sign Company, and Blake Essig, from Carr Supply (1450 Old Leonard Ave), presented a variance for a pylon mounted electronic sign it will be over 670.
 - The messaging will only be related to Carr supply (no other images).
 - The large addition is almost completed, still expanding to take care of drainage
 - Marking director Blake Essig, is in the 4th generation of this family owned business (been there for 103 years). They have a plumbing show room, they are a HVAC supplier. 23 show rooms total.
 - Emphasize: 1. Local, family company (sign will focus on local products, services, and information); 2. Hire locally – most employees are from this neighborhood; 3. Purpose – showroom is big part of the business but it looks like it's just a warehouse, struggling because people are not aware of it.
 - Clarified that anyone can buy from them, not just a vendors/contractors. This was a misconception from the area, but he did indicate some products are controlled (they cannot sell air conditioners, furnaces, and water heaters, etc. for legal purposes – needs a certified person to install).

- They could put it up on their sign when our meetings are. We also discussed a good neighbor agreement/community benefits agreement – contractual obligation (suggested by Morgan Harper). This could be mutually beneficial since we would try to obligate contractors in area to use them too.
- They are unsure if Homeport bought anything from them for the American Addition homes.
- Variances: 3377.05 – height variance (35 ft to 70 ft); 3375.06 #2 – second sign facing 670; 3377.10 – the sign does not have to face a street that abuts the property; and 3379.01 – automatic, changeable sign along interstate system.
 - Jessica Martin motioned to approve all, Reno Lemons seconded; all in favor
- Goes to Graphics Commission on the 19th of November, 4:30 PM at Mayor Coleman building

Community:

- Deb Krantz acknowledged we are proud of Tiffany White for running; audience agreed!
- Crew is giving out turkeys to American Addition on the 26th (needs addresses for families in the area).
- Jared Saltman, Community Outreach and Event Director at Pretentious Barrel House, has been in Devon's Triangle for 2 years. They brew sour beer. He is trying awareness about them. Found out they are in a dry area, currently going door to door to get signatures (shooting for 200) for their petition which would put the change on the ballot in March, would just be for their location not the area.
 - There used to be a bar in the area and the gas station sells beer and wine; they have a brewer's license so they are allowed to sell their own beer but want to expand it/offering other options.
 - They are trying to bring people into this area and get rest of the area developed.
 - They have rooms and party areas; just let him know and they will provide a meeting space for us, doesn't want money to be a barrier for this.
- 3 homes being built in American Addition: on Puritan, Key West, and one by the park. There are no spec homes in the neighborhood and there are still major issues with recent builds.
- Talked about need a campaign/investor hotline to help the elderly who are being harassed to sell their houses for cash.
- Mr. Hooper turned in signatures and Tiffany White will turn into Alfred.

Meeting Agenda Approval: N/A

Meeting Minutes for October 3, 2019: N/A

Budget: N/A

Police Liaison Report:

Officer Tony Rogers, 7th Precinct Liaison Officer, arogers@columbuspolice.org (614-645-1407) – N/A

Officer Alesia Zacher, 5th Precinct Liaison Officer azacher@columbuspolice.org (614-645-1405) – N/A

Community Liaison Report: Alfred Akainyah; his phone is 614-645-7964, cell 614-678-2605, email: aaakainyah@columbus.gov. – at Near East Area Commission tonight.

City Council Liaison: Sandra Lopez, sllopez@columbus.gov, 614-645-8502. N/A

Zoning: Applications from 1770 Joyce and 1658 Joyce, Reno Lemons has been trying to call but they did not show.

Committee & Special Committee Reports: N/A

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.