



## **Meeting Agenda**

March 18, 2021

7:00 pm -- Zoom

Attendees: Bobby Thaxton, Kathy Rhinehart, Jim Farmer, Caroline Stinziano, Marc Conte, Bob Stern, Chet Ridenour, Jack Decker, Jeff Smith, Doug Gouty, Kris Harrison, Gina Cronley, Debra Zynger, Andy Akins, Lisa Craig Morton, Susan Keeney, Ken Wightman, Jim Bishop, Nate \_\_\_\_, Robert Heisler, Andy Klein, Gavin Armstrong

### I. Welcome

Bobby updated the meeting attendees to let them know that meeting agenda, minutes and other meeting materials are now posted on our website → [shortnorthcivic.org](http://shortnorthcivic.org) under the “Join/Donate” tab.

### II. Approval of Minutes

Caroline presented the February 2021 minutes for approval.

**Motion: Marc Conte**

**Second: Bobby Thaxton**

**Member vote: Minutes passed with unanimous approval.**

### III. Organization

#### A. Financial Report -- Jim Farmer

General financial status has not changed - ~\$6k in checking and ~\$85k in savings

#### B. Budget -- Jim Farmer

Jim presented a draft of the 2021 budget for discussion and approval. The general strategy for the 2021 year with some of the uncertainty was to assume the SNCA would take in half as much in revenues from the Tour of Homes as compared to historical years as well as incur half as much in expenses.

**Motion to approve the SNCA 2021 budget as presented: Jack Decker**

Chet Ridenour asked to reinstate \$1100 for the SN Blockwatch to be used for SN Blockwatch programming such as National Night Out and to thank Blockwatch volunteers. Volunteers are tracked by Chet during the year. Additionally, the City are given a \$300 grant to be used for National Night Out activities.

**Motion to amend the budget as presented to add \$1100 in expenses for the SN Blockwatch: Chet Ridenour**  
**Second: Lisa Craig Morton**  
**Member vote: Motion passed with unanimous approval.**

**Motion to approve 2021 SNCA Budget, as amended: Jack Decker**  
**Second: Kathy Rhinehart**  
**Member vote: Motion passes with unanimous approval.**

C. Membership Report -- Kathy Rhinehart

Kathy reported that current membership is at 80 with about 15 businesses and the rest being household, individuals and patrons.

Discussion was had about considering the membership base and how the demographic has changed/is changing. The SNCA needs to think about the potential membership demographic (to include some of these larger apartment complexes) and think what membership means to these individuals.

D. Mission of the Organization -- Bobby Thaxton

Bobby reported there was a working group working on revising the SMCA mission that would include surveying the community.

E. Grant Program -- Bob Stern

Thanks to those who participated in the survey that was distributed on grants. Good foundation for starting the program and future discussions.

IV. Neighborhood

A. Cell Towers -- Susan Keeny

Susan provided an update on the 5G cell towers. Columbus Landmarks (CL) has talked with the State Historic Preservation Office and asked to be a prater in the process so CL can be notified. For those towers that have shown up recently the theory as to why there was no notification was that they were in the pipeline before law was revised requiring notification. CL has worked on about 25 locations to date. Not able to stop them from going in but can identify alternate locations or co-locations. Example was given of pending

installation on SW corner near 2<sup>nd</sup> and High St. that CL was notified about. The Short North Alliance was notified and letters were written. Verizon wanted to take down a decorative light post and put up a different light pole. SHPO is going to write a letter of adverse effect which will halt the installation for the time being. Susan would like to work with the historic district commissions. She has notified the Italian Village Commission and will work with Jack Decker to get in front of the Victorian Village Commission. There was discussion as to whether the SNCA or CL could ask for a regular meeting with companies to allow for upfront communication. Bill Bishop praised Susan for her help with the issue. He shared his experience of learning of the tower that went up in front of his house on February 10, 2020 whenever the company began the process of digging a hole outside. When it has reached this point, the city has already granted permits in which case they could be notifying residents. Bill urged that it is not a matter of stopping the installations at this point but ensuring those involved are complying with the law. He suggested calling phone company and city officials to aid in this effort. Bobby asked if the city was able to compile a list of where the poles are going and Susan said she would circle back with the city. She is not aware of any other current poles in the district other than one in Harrison West and 2<sup>nd</sup>/High. She will let the SNCA know if she hears of any others.

**B. Dennison-McMillen Historic District -- Susan Keeny**

Susan thanks the SNCA for their generous support. The application for the historic district has been completed. A presentation and report was submitted to the city and SHPO. Three quarters of the way towards gathering the signatures needed for support (need 75% of area property owners). Hope to be done with this effort by the Fall.

The boundaries of the Dennison-McMillen Historic District are – 5<sup>th</sup> Ave (S) – west along Battelle Blvd to 8<sup>th</sup> to Medical school and East all the way to Wall St (did not go all the way up to High St) 8<sup>th</sup> west of Neil and east to Neil stopped at the alley North of King Ave. Includes NECKO, Dennison Place & the Circles.

**C. Neil Avenue Planters -- Lisa Morton**

Lisa provided a quote from Lush Scapes. They would take care of planting, watering and a fall refresh (for the home tour) for all the planters from King Avenue to 670. The initial planting usually occurs between Mother's Day and Memorial Day. Lisa drops information cards around neighbors houses to try to garner some financial support and works with Kris/Gina to promote through social media. Lisa is happy to continue coordinating this effort and Bobby thanked her on behalf of the SNCA (Thank you Lisa!).

**Motion to approve to move forward with using Lush Scapes for the 2021 planters along Neil Avenue: Bob Stern**

**Second: Jack Decker**

**Member vote: Motion passes with unanimous approval.**

- D. **Block Watch -- Chet Ridenour**  
Chet summarized crime report from Steve Smith  
Crime in area remains relatively low and concentrated along High Street corridor  
Anyone can pull crime map from [communitycrime.com](http://communitycrime.com)
- E. **Home and Garden Tour -- Masana Noma**  
Bobby provided the update from Masana:  
Getting ready to send out a save the date  
Planning to go full force with a garden/outdoor space tour  
Still hoping for preview party and preview tour  
Will present more next month
- F. **Screen on the Green -- Bobby Thaxton**  
Dates have been saved and will be publicized soon
- G. **Victorian Village Commission -- Jack Decker**  
2 major projects discussed at last meeting  
1) Kauffman 23 W 3<sup>rd</sup> – spent an 1-2 hours at the last meeting going through the proposal  
2) Proposed new build double on Neil Ave between 3-4<sup>th</sup> on the West side (needs some work) – some community members opposed framework and carriage house construction  
Bobby asked about whether the SNCA nomination for the VVC is official and Jack does not think they have been officially appointed yet
- H. **Goodale Park Music Series;**  
No updates - Bobby has reached out to the prior years' coordinators
- I. **Neighborhood Signage Replacement**  
Marc has information to look into quotes for new signs.
- J. **Street Repairs/Curb Replacement Follow-Up -- Chet Ridenour**  
Chet updated the meeting attendees regarding interactions that he has had with the city since last fall in an effort to gather more transparency around concerns related to the city's repaving efforts, the enforcement of towing and the compliance of contractors with posting of "no parking" signs. Similar concerns were shared with the Board via e-mail last November as well. Chet voiced his concerns with the city's lack of response and follow up and asked for the assistance of the SNCA to conduct a full review of the city's repaving processes. Chet is asking that the city provide a detailed account of the year end review in the context of their repaving project including any opportunities for improvement and changes to the processes.  
Jack suggested that a starting point for this effort would be to submit a public records request.

Bobby asked Chet to request the information through an Ohio public records request and to follow up with the SNCA if information is not received via this process. Chet took the “to do” to draft a letter to request the information via a public records request in the hopes of having it by the next meeting.

V. Announcements/ Questions/Comments

VI. Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the meeting: Jack Decker**

**Second: Kathy Rhinehart**

Meeting adjourned 8:39pm