



## Meeting Agenda

September 16, 2021  
7:00 pm – In-Person & Zoom

**Attendees:** Frank Hall, Katherine Cull, Bobby Thaxton (Board), Bob Stern (Board), Marc Conte (zoom-Board), Kris Harrison, Gina Cronley, Chet Ridenour (phone-Board), Doug Gouty, Katie Beaumont, JP Dorval, Gerd8 (zoom), Caroline Stinziano (Board)

### I. **Welcome**

### II. **Approval of Minutes for August -- Caroline Stinziano**

Caroline presented the July 2021 minutes for approval.

**Motion: Bob**

**Second: Doug**

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

### III. **Neighborhood**

#### A. **Short North Tour of Gardens** – Caroline, Kris, Gina

The tour is this weekend. Preview Event on Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Preview Party to be held at Hubbard Park Place. The tour is Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> from 10am-4pm. This is the SNCA's biggest fundraiser. Please share and tickets for both events are at [shortnorthcivic.org](http://shortnorthcivic.org).

#### B. **Crime in the Short North - Bobby**

##### 1. **Short North Alliance**

- a. Short North Crime Interdiction Pilot Program
  - (1) Hired dedicated police officers to patrol the area between 11am-4pm (overtime officers)
  - (2) Funded by the Short North Alliance
- b. Dedicated police officers to patrol the area between 11 and 4.

- c. Required overtime, so we are guaranteed police, but SNA is paying for it.

## 2. Short North Safety Meeting

- a. August 25, 2021
- b. Betsy Pandora, SNA
- c. Jenny Frankart, IVS
- d. Bobby Thaxton, SNCA
- e. Representatives of the City and the Columbus Police Department.
- f. About 80 people on the phone.
- g. Discussion about programs in existence.
- h. Helpful from the standpoint:
  - (1) City and Police saw our frustration levels.
  - (2) Frustration with lack of enforcement.
  - (3) General consensus to move forward to work for solutions.

## 3. Short North Violence and Injury Prevention Work Group

### a. Purpose:

Safety in the Short North Arts District and adjacent communities is a state where everyone is free of harm, thrives, and has their well-being protected and their diversity celebrated. The Short North Violence and Injury Prevention Work Group is a collective of individuals representing resident, business, commercial, or other civic interests tasked to identify and inform programs, services, policies, and other interventions to address violence and injury prevention. Work Group members Work collaboratively in the best interests of the community, Assume positive intent in all discussions, and Respect individual opinions.

@30 people participating

- b. Met on Tuesday, September 14, 2021.

### c. Identifying issues

- (1) Violence
- (2) Noise
- (3) Mobile Food Vending – after hours congregation due to food vendors being out late
- (4) Parking
- (5) Trespassing

(6) Scooters

**d. Solutions**

- (1) Good Neighbor Agreements – Between bars/restaurants & neighborhood
- (2) Potential code changes (mobile food vending, Noise); - Long term
- (3) Enforcement Issues (Noise, Scooters, Parking, Trespassing, Mobile Food vending);

**C. Scooters – Katherine Cull**

- More enforcement from police for scooters on the sidewalks
- Bob – have we talked with scooter companies to identify best practices for other scooters
- Public Service is working with the Scooter Companies
- Passed out scooter vendor contact information; some recent experiences in working directly with the vendors to relocate scooters and address visible issues
- Discussion of Geofencing to help curb using scooters for crimes
- Scooters are still a means of mobility – want people to have options so need to balance it out.

**D. Block Watch – Chet**

**Police Liaison – ~~Mark Hauenstein~~ Frank Hall**  
New Community Liaison Officer (614-645-1416)

- Statistics include entire Short North
- August 19 through current day
  - 15 violent crimes – aggravated assaults, individual robberies
  - Correlated to Sunday times – Midnight – 2am; 4 robberies (spike in Dennison and 2<sup>nd</sup> area); 2 robberies Russell & High
  - Burglaries – 4 commercial and 3 residential – highest rate on Sunday (late Sat/into early Sunday morning)
  - Car thefts – 11 motor vehicle thefts – vary in hours/days; 4 related to running vehicles
  - 20 break-ins for motor vehicles (Wed/Thurs were highest days)
- Discussion consideration of putting Columbus Police Graphic on Smart Kiosks w reminders about safety practices
  - Katherine will ask CPD to see who can maybe work with SNA to put graphics on there
  - SNA does have an allocation of ad budget for public services announcements

- Chet inquired about seeing a map of 311 service requests
  - Katherine believed you could see all open and closed 311 requests in your area
  - Will look into this and talk to 311

E. **Screen on the Green -- Bobby Thaxton**

1. Paddington 2
2. Tomorrow night
3. Starts at sundown
  - a. Tickets will be on sale for the home tour

F. **Victorian Village Commission Update – Jack, Marc**

1. No updates

G. **Neil Avenue Street Scape Project**

1. At last meeting, Bobby had emailed city
2. First Correspondence with Reynaldo Stargell with the Traffic Management Division:
  - a. What we see right now is permitted utility work that is taking place along Neil Avenue. The utility companies are relocating utilities for the new signal installations.
  - b. The entire project is scheduled for completion by the end of summer 2022.
  - c. Tree Removals
    - (1) One Tree Removal Planned: SE corner of Neil and King.
    - (2) One Potential Tree Removal: SE corner of Neil and Fifth (if there is significant root damage. Apparently a proposed power meter will be close to the tree).
  - d. Cameras on Poles
    - (1) When first designed, cameras were going to be used at all intersections at all traffic light intersections in order to monitor traffic. An extra pole would have been installed on each traffic pole and contain a mounted

camera to monitor traffic. That means four extra arms and cameras in all four directions.

- (2) Because of our community push back, the City changed to radar style vehicular detection. The radar will attach to the main arm off of each traffic pole (meaning no need for an extra arm) and no video cameras.
- (3) Four intersections will have an extra arm installed, but only one arm will be installed, and it will have mounted cameras to monitor traffic. Those intersections are Buttles, 5th Avenue, King, and 9th Avenue.
- (4) The extra arms will attach to the signal poles at a height of 26ft and extend over the intersection to a height of 35 feet.

e. Pedestrian Push Buttons:

Most of the poles call for a separate pole to be erected on the corner for the pedestrian push button. A few locations will have the push button located on the signal pole, itself.

f. Walk Sign

In order to get a “Walk” signal, Pedestrians will need to push the Pedestrian Push Button.

g. They also provided us with a copy of the plans.

3. Follow Up with Reynaldo Stargell – August 31, 2021

- a. Plans appear to call for non-decorative poles, meaning the bases of the traffic poles would just be a square. I submitted an inquiry asking about having the poles which have the more decorative base.
- b. Inquired about making the “Walk” sign appear whenever the lights change, as they do now. It allows for a more pedestrian feel.
- c. Inquired about the relocation of ADA accessible ramps so that the new traffic poles do not block the view of the pedestrian.
- d. Still waiting on these answers.

ii. Katherine is going to help with those poles

a. Chet asked about the tree replacement on NW side of 5th

#### **IV. Announcements/Questions/Comments**

- Katie Beaumont from @HomebyHigh came to discuss with the SNCA the possibility of letting her organization use the Caretaker's Cottage
  - Katherine Cull & JP Dorval to discuss with City regarding status of lease
- JP Dorval
  - Council is back in session
  - talked to Councilmember Mitch Brown's aid about getting more security cameras
  - Discussed CRDC effort (Council Residential Districting Commission)
    - Initial map available with 30 day comment period
    - Hope to have districts in effect by 2023
    - Map for initial comment period is using 2010 data (was unable to get 2020 census data in time)
    - Encouraged people to review the map, see where civic association is, and provide comments

#### **V. Adjournment.**

Meeting adjourned - 8:08pm