



Meeting Agenda

November 18, 2021

7:00 pm – Caretaker’s Cottage
& Zoom

Attendees: Bobby Thaxton (Board), Bob Stern (Board), Jim Farmer (Board), Caroline Stinziano (Board), Kathy Rhinehart (Board/zoom), JP Dorval (zoom), Katherine Cull (zoom), Chet Ridenour (Board/zoom), Marc Conte, Doug Gouty (zoom), Jack Decker, Kevin McCain, Andy McDonald (zoom), Officer Frank Hall

I. Welcome

II. Approval of Minutes for October -- Caroline Stinziano

Caroline presented the October 2021 minutes for approval.

Motion: Jack

Second: Marc

Member vote: Minutes passed with unanimous approval.

III. Organization

A. Financial Report -- Jim Farmer

1. Tour – profit just under \$10K
 - (1) Ticket Sales
 - (2) Sponsorships
2. ~15,000 Chase checking
3. ~15,000 Chase savings
4. ~51,000 in Money Market Fund
5. Jim proposed to shift the money over to Vanguard Fund over a period of time; \$3,000/month
6. Motion to authorize Treasurer to move \$36,000 50/50 Vanguard Bond and Stock Market Index fund over 12 months

Motion: Jack

Second: Marc

Chet – would that give us funds to begin grant program?

Jim – would start year with \$45,000

Member vote: Passed with unanimous approval

- B. Membership Report -- Kathy Rhinehart
No update

IV. Neighborhood

- A. Short Term Rentals in the Short North – Kevin McCain

Started working on code and getting amendments

Short term rentals managed by the Division of Licensing

- Rentals of room or entire home for 30 days or less
- Oversees permits
- Do need a permit for every short term rental
- Info; www.columbus.gov/str
 - o Website has the ordinance, FAQ, the application needed, background check information, website links to codes
- Questions – shorttermrentals@columbus.gov
 - o Report issues
 - o Register complaints

Also please use 311

- last round of legislation is July created a special category for short term rentals
- New 311 will allow for people to look up number of complaints associated with a property

Maps?

- There is no online public facing map of short
- Division Licensing has internal map
- Airdna.co – 3rd party map
 - o subscription based but can view for free
- Division of Licensing can fill requests for listing of properties with licenses/applications

Changes

- only owners and permanent residents are allowed to have short term rentals
- if renter need permission from owner
- owners can be an LLC or business but still need to submit 24/7 local contact
- Application needs 24/7 contact in central ohio (this is public record and can be requested)
- Recent of legislation strengthened enforcement system to give the City strength to apply penalties

Kevin can with any questions; email is the best way to reach him

Searchable database not available at the current time

Would encourage Civic associations to do a public records request

3 strikes is usually enough to initiate an investigations (Division of Licensing has discretion here)

Chet asked about AC Humko status with Rob Dorans

- Not tabled but not moving fast
- Requested to keep SNCA in the loop

B. Neighborhood Crime/Violence/ Crime Prevention:

1. Short North Crime Interdiction Pilot Program update:

- a. Thursdays through Sundays;
- b. Between three and eight officers;
- c. 200 incidents in which officers have intervened:
 - (1) 26% of incidents involved a vehicle;
 - (2) 13% of vehicle incidents were OVI-related;
 - Has highlighted an issue with OVI issues after dark
 - (3) Remainder of incidents were miscellaneous behavioral or noise violations, vendor violations, fights, robberies, and shots fired;
 - (4) Investigations of “shot-fired” cases, but in most cases, nothing found;
 - (5) 3 documented incidents have resulted in the prevention of gun violence.
- d. SNA has funding through end of November.
- e. They will share final report after program is completed.

2. Short North Violence and Injury Prevention Workgroup

- a. Violence has decreased in the Short North. Believe it is due to the following:
 - (1) Short North Crime Interdiction Pilot Program;
 - (2) Scooter changes;
 - (3) Opening of other entertainment venues;
 - (4) Increased police presence.
- b. Police recognize the safety concerns, and will deploy extra resources, as they are able, to the Short North through December.
- c. Safety Budget
 - (1) Hiring 300 personnel in firefighters and police officers;

- d. Re-Evaluation of Neighborhood Safety Strategies set in 2018 (due to pandemic and way the City provides services); determine what programs were successful and expand those programs;
- e. City is looking at technology:
 - (1) Cameras around City to enhance safety footprint;
 - (2) Looking at use of Shot Spotter;
 - (3) Real-time crime center;
 - (4) Work with the SNA and the block watch in order to determine best place for cameras;
 - (5) Any technology will have dedicated personnel to cover the technology.

Crime report in the last month (Officer Hall)

- 11 violent assaults (majority in Weiland Park Area)
- 12 robberies to individuals (peak Sun – Fri); Hours btwn 6-9pm and 2am
- 6 motor vehicle incidents
- 77 report auto theft
- 10 commercial burglaries and 7 residential throughout the month

Chet – Asked Katherine about crime graphics discussed in a previous meeting and she will follow up

3. Nuisance/Abatements/Complaints with bars/restaurants

- a. Jenny Frankart & Bobby - Meeting with Heidi Carr (Assistant City Attorney, Zoning Initiative);
- b. Nuisance Abatements
- c. Nuisance abatements are when the City uses the existing zoning codes, or building codes, in order to increase public safety and quality of life in neighborhoods.
- d. In essence, the city would use the codes in order to attempt to shut down a business.
- e. Types of crimes considered: felony drug crimes, violent crimes, prostitution, liquor violations, overdoses.
- f. Cannot file based on the calls but encourage this information to be called in to allow for further investigation (covertly). Narcotics have to do covert operations.
- g. City files an ex parte restraining order, asking the judge to shut board up a building or shut down a business.
- h. Bar Sweep Through Short North:

No health or liquor code violations discovered.

i. Checksmart Building:

Checksmart has been sent a warning letter by CPD regarding the possible criminal activities occurring, so they are on notice. They were warned that if they do not take action and an incident takes place, the City may take legal action.

j. Noise violations:

- (1) Hard to file anything about noise unless multiple people willing to testify.
- (2) Not enough for just one household to testify.
- (3) Best to deal directly with the bar owners
- (4) See Saw Noise Test:

Agreement with Owner – residents have phone number of DJ.

4. Good Neighbor Agreements

- a. Agreements between the bars/restaurants and the neighborhoods.
- b. First meeting on December 02, 2021. (Separate working group)
- c. Bobby – any comments ideas on good neighbor agreement
 - Making sure outside music shut off at a certain hour
 - Garage doors closed at a certain hour to minimize noise

Important to have the bar owners involved in these discussions

C. City of Columbus Update – JP Dorval/Katherine Cull

Katherine Cull

Last day is Friday, Dec 3rd

Working on transition plan but not hired a replacement

In the meantime will send an e-mail for temporary replacement and JP will remain involved

Thanked SNCA for working with City

Thank you Katherine!

JP Dorval –

- 1) Council President announced Promise Program (workforce development initiative)

All CCS students if graduate high school and fill our FASPA then can go to Columbus State for free
Discussions of expanding to all of Franklin County in the future
Groups like AEP plugged in as sponsors
JP will e-mail the website

- 2) Dept of Dev has been proposed updates to CRA policies
Council hearing was pushed to the week of the 29th to do more community outreach
2 previous hearings and a virtual presentation that JP will share with SNCA

Jim Farmer – went to hearing and map did not show expansion of AC Humko

- 3) Maps – Final Comment Period for maps; ends on 12/10 and vote on 12/13
 - a. Map A (recycled) – SN only in one district up until 7th & High
 - b. Map B (recycled) – SN all one district
 - c. Map C (new) – Split by High St; East side and West side
 - i. Go to same link to view; the more comments the better
 - ii. The conversation now is which map to you prefer
 - d. Some groups are submitting a formal letter as to which Map they would prefer
 - e. JP was not sure what the catalyst was for the creation of the new map (Map C)

D. Block Watch – Chet Ridenour

Annual Lighting Survey is underway

E. Home and Garden Tour – Caroline Stinziano

Planning for full tour – September 18, 2022
Looking for individuals to be a part of the tour committee

F. Neighborhood Signage Replacement -- Marc Conte

Marc has pricing/estimates for sign repair
Talking with Westminster Thurber to get sponsorship package to include sign maintenance
No one individual/organization currently owns the maintenance of the south island

G. Short North Foundation update – Chet Ridenour

Grant cycle – awarded \$5k to Friends of Goodale Park for work around the gazebo, decorative benches
Last year's grants
Italian village archival project still in process

Harrison West Arts group – finished a mural on the Olentangy Trail
(southside of tunnel near 3rd)

Elections coming up – similar slate to current year; Member at large – looking to fill with someone from one of the schools

At Home on High – found some space with Wood Companies

H. **Tree Damage – Chet Ridenour**

Last year Claus Eckert brought up issue of contractors not protecting trees within the city right of way or private property

Chet shared information w Board

Last year Board moved to draft a letter to City but was not sent

Motion to send previously drafted/revised letter to the city regarding tree protection

Motion: Chet

Second: Marc

Member vote: Motion passed unanimously

Marc is going to put Chet in touch with Rosalie from Parks Dept.

Through new hirings and there will be one person who will be in charge as a liaison between the city and utilities in the future.

V. **Announcements/ Questions/Comments**

Bobby to start working on January kick-off meeting

Marc – attended the SN Advisory Parking Meeting

They want as many neighborhood groups to support as possible

Marc will send out the details for feedback

Will look to put more money into incentives for transit

VI. **Adjournment.**

Meeting adjourned: 8:33pm