



## Short North Civic Association Minutes

December 5, 2024

6:30 p.m. Columbus Metropolitan Library

**Attendees:** Chuck Fairbanks, Jack Decker, Bob Stern, Heather Rice, Jared Cape, Bobby Thaxton, Christy Walters, Libby Koetz, Marc Conte, Officer Mark Hauenstein

- I. **Welcome** – Jack Decker
- II. **Secretary’s Report** – Jared Cape
  - A. Approval of Board Minutes for November ([link](#))
    1. Motion for Approval: Chuck Fairbanks
    2. Second: Bob Stern
    3. Vote: Unanimous Approval
- III. **Financial Report** – Bob Stern
  - A. Approval of Financial Report and Fiscal Year 2025 Budget
    1. Motion for Approval: Jared Cape
    2. Second: Libby Koetz
    3. Vote: Unanimous Approval
- IV. **Sustainable Columbus** - Green Spot Coordinator Christy Walters
  - A. Green Spot does sustainability programming for individuals, businesses, and neighborhoods. Membership is free and has benefits such as rebates for rain barrels, compost bins, and native plants.
  - B. Christy will share additional information and resources. She said she’d support us in creating a green team or anything we may want to do.
  - C. SNCA shared our sustainable activities and advocacy that we do.
  - D. Jared suggested and volunteered to coordinate a household hazardous waste / hard to recycle items pickup day with support from Christy. He suggested spring.
- V. **City Reports**
  - A. CPD – Community Liaison Officer Mark Hauenstein
    1. Mark provided an overview of recent or planned police actions and charitable work such as Operation Unity (proactive enforcement in zone 5), Feed the Kids the Foundation, Holiday Hops, Galaxy Con, cars broken into in Goodale Park happening across the city, a shooting in Weiland Park with a suspect arrested and a victim shot and killed, shooting around 3rd Ave with suspect arrested, Cram-a-Cruiser, Shop with a Cop, a shoe give-a-way with Rock City Church, Avalon shut down by the City Attorney, and an overview of the neo-nazi hate group that marched on High Street. The group was not from Ohio, but CPD does know who the group is and the group members have charges in other jurisdictions. The pepper-sprayed individual did not press charges.

2. In the upcoming budget, the City is planning on cutting overtime but also can't find enough officers. We are estimated to be at least 200 officers short citywide.

**VI. Nominations Committee - Bobby Thaxton**

- A. All board members are willing to return for another year. Some have indicated that they are not planning on returning to the board after this next term. The nominations committee proposes the following for this upcoming year:
  1. President: Jack Decker
  2. VP: Chuck Fairbanks
  3. Secretary: Jared Cape
  4. Treasurer: Bob Stern
  5. Board Member: Caroline Stinziano
  6. Board Member: Marc Conte
  7. Board Member: Heather Rice
- B. Approval of the suggested slate, immediate communication for neighbors to offer additional nominations to Bobby due January 2nd.
  1. Motion for Approval: Marc Conte
  2. Second: Chuck Fairbanks
  3. Vote: Unanimous Approval

**VII. President's Report – Jack Decker**

- A. January Annual Meeting
  1. Approval to hold the annual meeting at Seventh Son on January 23rd from 6-9pm. The facility is free to use, must bring our own food, and has no drink minimum.
    - a) Motion for Approval: Chuck Fairbanks
    - b) Second: Jared Cape
    - c) Vote: Unanimous Approval
- B. Short North Foundation Grant
  1. The SNF is granting their assets in \$10,000 minimum request grants. Italian Village wants to get their signs redone and suggested going in with SNCA to fix signs across the Short North. There was a discussion on sign placement, bus stop benches, and other organizations seeking funding.
  2. Approval to pursue grant funding primarily for the neighborhood signs and benches as a secondary ask.
    - a) Motion for Approval: Chuck Fairbanks
    - b) Second: Jared Cape
    - c) Vote: Unanimous Approval
  3. Jared and Marc will inventory and pull together a request for the signs. Jack will work on getting quotes for the benches.
- C. Transportation
  1. A one directional protected bike lane will be installed on North 4th St. The City also announced plans to make changes to 5th Ave east of High St according to a road diet.
  2. The City is planning to decrease the speed limit on High St ([link](#)).
  3. Jack shared an informal list of SNCA mobility priorities for 2025 based on SNCA actions and discussions from this past year.
    - a) 25mph speed limits across the Short North
    - b) Traffic calming with a focus on 5th Ave

- c) Supporting bike boulevards proposed in the Bike Plus Plan with a focus on the Dennison Ave to Highland Ave stretch
- d) Scooter management focusing on preventing sidewalk riding and improper / obstructive parking
- e) Enhancing bus stops with a focus on the benches
- f) Street safety improvements including regularly painted and easily visible crosswalks
- g) Sidewalk repairs and improvements
- h) Adding 600 trees to the Short North

**VIII. Committee Reports**

**A. Membership – Libby Koetz**

- 1. Two new memberships were added in the last two months.

**B. Traffic Calming & Infrastructure – Jared Cape**

- 1. Jared and Jason Henry walked the High St corridor and Dennison Ave putting together a map ([link](#)) of potential scooter parking locations that try to avoid taking parking spots while still being on the street level to avoid sidewalk riding confusion. After approval by the committee, it was shared with DPS with an offer to make changes, cover additional areas, or anything else that may be helpful.
- 2. Jared in coordination with the committee drafted a list of suggestions for the Short North Alliance’s North North Mobility Plan. Suggestions focused on creating project priorities, clarifying certain sections, and specific suggestions for increasing meaningful neighborhood impact. The committee sent these suggestions to the SNA.
- 3. The City held a hearing ([link](#)) for the Bike Plus Plan on Tuesday which also included a discussion on micro-mobility devices (scooters, bikes, etc.) and the intention of the City to go solely with Veo. Jared spoke on his own behalf in support of the Bike Plus Plan urging its adoption, sufficient resources to implement the recommendations, and for city permitting of local groups to do tactical urbanism such as is done in Atlanta, Nashville, and Cleveland. DPS director Justin Goodwin came up to Jared to chat and brought up our suggestions for scooter parking locations along the High St corridor and Dennison Ave. Jared reiterated our commitment to help however we can. There are a variety of ordinances of interest on the agenda ([link](#)) for 12/9/24 regarding transportation infrastructure and scooters.

**IX. Other Business**

- A. Jared will be working on pulling together an annual report and will reach out for helpful statistics / information.

**X. Adjournment at 7:51pm**