

Minutes of the Greater Hilltop Area Commission – January 2, 2006

In attendance: D.Bagley, G.Baker II, J.Boggs, M.Cole, J.Decker, N.Hitch, D.Horn, S.Laughlin, J.Manley, C.Patterson, M.Potts

Meeting opened with the pledge to the flag. There was a moment of silence in honor of the passing of former President Gerald Ford.

It was announced that N.Hitch and M.Cole had been screened by the selection committee for a position on the Columbus Public School Board; however, neither were selected as finalists.

The minutes of the December 2006 meeting were read and approved. The treasurer reported a balance of \$337.13.

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There were no zoning issues to discuss but it was announced that at the next committee meeting on January 16, representatives of the architectural firm working on the new health center would be in attendance to share plans for the site.

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Announcements:

..... The Hilltop Community Theater will be holding a fundraising dinner on Feb. 17 at Parkview U.M. Church. Musical selections from various shows by members of the theater will be the entertainment.

..... The annual HBA dinner will be January 10, 7pm, at the Mt. Carmel College of Nursing.

..... A copy of the Mayor's proposed 2007 budget has been placed on closed reserve at the Hilltop Library.

..... B.Lee announced that – a) Cols. Public Schools is holding several meetings on school closings. There is a scheduled meeting on January 3, 6-8pm at West High School; b) there is a proposal to the Regional Neighborhood Network Conference to allow members of civic groups to be eligible to attend the 2007 conference in Kentucky. Money to cover this would come from separate funding than that given for area commissioners; c) the City is looking at offering training programs for commissions; this could start as early as April 2007.

..... The December 2006 issue of Columbus Monthly featured the Westgate area as one of the best in town; an article on the front page of the January 1 Messenger featured the painted windows of the Hilltop Market Place that depict various scenes of the Hilltop.

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Committee Reports:

..... Community Relations – C.Patterson gave members a revised version of his committee’s mission and vision statements. After discussion it was agreed that the mission statement is really the vision statement and vice versa. Also, it was suggested that there may be some confusion with the wording in the mission statement regarding ...”determination of our neighbors”. This will be looked at and brought back to the GHAC in February.

The web site host company has been switched to NVU. Members were given sample logos and asked for feedback.

..... Development/Regulation – no report.

..... Govt/Legislation – D.Horn presented rewording of the annual election Selection Guidelines to better reflect being ‘in tune’ with the Bylaws. The proposed change was made in light of the June 2006 elections over which some concerns were voiced. M.Potts agreed that this goes along with what had been discussed previously. The change has to do with how the appointed seats are filled. A motion was made and seconded (Horn/Potts) to approve the changes. A unanimous vote was cast in the affirmative. This will now be incorporated in the Selection Guidelines.

..... Human Services/Education – nothing to report.

..... Planning/Economic Dev. – the Design Center will be making a presentation at the February meeting as part of the planning charette.

..... Public Safety – nothing to report.

..... Recreation/Parks – S.Laughlin reported there are lights now around the pond at Westgate Park but they look temporary. Also, there are no lights on at the Recreation Center. She will be contacting the City. She said there is interest in having a mural at the park.

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Old Business:

..... D.Bagley asked about the houses on Belvidere that were to be renovated. G.Baker said he would ask a representative of the company to come to a meeting and give an update.

..... M.Potts inquired about what is happening with finding a new location for the Hilltop Post Office. Inquiries will be made to the City and Federal officials.

..... The hearing on the Tonti property on Briggs Rd. has been postponed. D.Weber reported that the grass has been mowed, improving the site, so this may not make it to court at all.

..... City Council did not oppose the liquor license for Dee’s Tavern as there were no violations on record for 2006.

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New Business: none

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

J.Manley, secretary