

Minutes of the Greater Hilltop Area Commission – May 1, 2007

In attendance: D.Bagley, G.Baker II, J.Boggs, M.Cole, T.Corson, J.Decker, S.Laughlin, J.Manley, M.Potts, K.Whitman

Meeting opened with pledge to the flag. Minutes of the April meeting read and approved. Treasurer's report indicates a balance of \$149.49; City monies expected soon.

Special recognition was given to former commissioner and GHAC chair, Patrick McLean, who was in attendance for the meeting.

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Zoning Committee:

..... Minutes of the committee meeting were emailed to members prior to regular GHAC meeting. Below are the items discussed at the meeting which are now before the GHAC body.

..... 3941 W. Broad St., D.Plank attorney of representation for applicant. Request is to rezone a 2.379-acre parcel to allow for a car wash. Currently zoned LC4 and request to rezone to CPD. The zoning committee voted for approval of this. The site plan had changed slightly after applicant met with the Dept. of Transportation; entrance to site moved. As this parcel is close to a car dealership on W. Broad, the question was asked how this is separated from the dealership; answer: separation is by the entrance to the Delphi plant. After discussion a vote was taken with members unanimously voting in the affirmative.

..... 263-265 and 370-372 -- Request is for a variance or rezoning due to houses on site being doubles when the lots are zoned single family. Neither the applicant nor a representative was in attendance at the zoning committee meeting nor in attendance at the regular meeting. This matter is tabled.

Members will be notified whether there is a zoning committee this month.

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Announcements:

..... the 5th Annual Blockwatch party on S.Ogden Ave will be held May 26. J.Boggs hosting.

..... June 23 is the date for the annual HBA Bean Dinner at Westgate Park. June 1 is the deadline for placing ads in the program.

..... J.Decker announced that GHALA is currently receiving article for the next issue of The Pinnacle; the deadline is May 15. Also, there is an exhibit, in conjunction with the Grove City Art League, at a gallery in Worthington.

..... S.Laughlin stated the first of a series of Westgate Park clean-ups was a success. M.Young of Parks and Recreation was at the clean-up.

..... The deadline for submitting an application for the upcoming GHAC election is May 23rd. Materials need to be mailed to T. Corson.

..... There is a conference on June 12, 9am-4pm, 'Come Together for Action, Part II' on the Ohio Immigrant and Refugee Health project. Location: Longebarger Alumni House.

..... May 10, 6-8pm, is Skybus' inaugural launch.

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Presentations:

.....S.Schuler, Director of Real Estate for Community Housing Network, updated the GHAC on its Belvidere project. Monies have come from HUD funding. The initial closing will be May 2 and expected completion is May 2008.

.....L.Castro, Glenwood UM community garden representative, along with C.Powell, church member, spoke about the garden, its design, initial planting day (May 12), desire to have ethnic group representation, Wednesday night story time, and other plans in the works for this space.

.....M.Hartley, Director of Outreach for Rep. D.Pryce, introduced himself and talked about his position and what his office can do for the community.

.....M.Hubert, Deputy Director of Safety, Cols. Police Dept., talked about the plans for a new heliport near the State Lands, McKinley and Harper Rds. He spoke about the current site and the need to move and the impact this would have on the area.

.....B.Buckel, candidate for Cols. School Board, addressed the GHAC on his platform for education.

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Committee reports:

..... Recreation/Parks == S.Laughlin reported that Mark Young is expected to be at the June meeting to address the issue of port-a-toilets in Rhodes and Holton parks. She also reported that the light bases have been removed at Westgate Park and Friday, June 1, a clean-up, with help from the Friends of the Hilltop, is scheduled for the railroad track area near Great Western.

..... Community Relations == K.Whitman is said that planning for the Safety Town meeting in the fall is continuing. J.Decker has met with parents of students at Westgate Alternative School regarding the traffic issue and there has been positive feedback.

..... Planning/Economic Development == nothing to report due to absence of committee chair.

..... Government/Legislation == M.Potts stated more election packets would be placed at the Hilltop Library. Those running will be contacted about submitting a bio and/or photo to run in The Messenger prior to the election.

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Old Business/Follow-up:

..... Discussion is ongoing regarding the Highland West District vision. Additional discussion at the June meeting.

..... the July meeting will be held on July 10, due to the festivities taking place on July 3.

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New Business:

..... An email was sent to members regarding the City-wide Area Commission Working Group. Chair Baker asked members to send him any comments that he can pass on to this group.

..... Copies of the GHAC 'Top 10' issues were given to members. All are asked to review and send Chair Baker comments, etc. This will be discussed at the June meeting.

..... B.Lee said the new interim Director of the Development Dept. would like to attend a future meeting, possibly the June one. Also, a group of residents on Alkire Rd. (Shetland Farms) are interested in forming a Civic Association. She has encouraged them to come before the GHAC to express their interest.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting June 5, 7:00pm, Hilltop Library.

Respectfully submitted,
J.Manley, secretary