

Minutes of the Greater Hilltop Area Commission 4/1/08

In attendance: D.Bagley, J.Boggs, M.Cole, T.Corson, J.Decker, D.Horn, J.Keplar, S. Laughlin, J.Manley, C.Patterson, B.Spears, K.Whitman

Meeting called to order with the pledge to the flag.

Minutes of the March meeting read and approved. Treasurer report indicated a balance of \$275.85.

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No zoning matters

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Special Presentations:

.Alan McKnight, Columbus Parks and Recreation, discussed rec center pool closures for the summer, due to budget cuts: Glenwood, Fairwood, and the Columbus Swim Center (indoor pool only). The balance of pools will be open and free of charge. A closer look at the 2009 budget will determine whether any of the pools will re-open next year.

Q&A followed with those in attendance expressing their concern over the closures. It was noted a meeting is scheduled for April 16 with community groups and non-profit groups to discuss advocacy and how important programming is for the neighborhoods. Some in attendance also expressed concern for the shape of the park area at the bottom of the hill near Glenwood Rec Center and whether Parks/Recreation had a plan for improvement.

.Bonita Lee, City liaison, had no updates to share with the GHAC.

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Announcements:

.At 9:00am on April 9 there will be another community meeting at Parkview UM Church.

. S.Laughlin shared that on April 2 she and the GHAC intern will be going out and taking pictures of the Hilltop parks and creating a brochure.

.D.Bagley mentioned the Unnatural Causes kick-off.

.B.Spears stated that Spears Funeral Home would be able to conduct business at its remodeled/renovated facility starting early May. They are to get the certificate of occupancy by April 2.

Committee Reports:

.Human Services/Education D.Bagley gave an update regarding Wedgewood Apts (new owners have reaffirmed commitment to upgrading housing), Farmers Mkt, and community gardens.

.Parks/Recreation see Alan McKnight presentation.

.Community Relations nothing to report

.Public Safety a Neighborhood Pride will once again take place in the Hilltop in September; there will be a tour of the area in early August. J.Boggs updated on the Hilltop Youth Commission. He stated at the committee meeting it was motioned/seconded to allow one member of this group to be a member of the GHAC. He then made a motion that when the youth commission is formed that up to one member be allowed to sit-in as a non-voting member of the GHAC. In accordance with policy rules a vote on this is tabled until the May meeting.

.Planning/Economic Development committee did not meet. C.Patterson indicated that the Schottenstein store in Great Western is not leaving but being converted to a Value City department store.

.Government/Legislation an information meeting is being schedule for April 5, 1-3pm, Hilltop library. The purpose of this is to inform the community of the function of the commission as well as encourage residents to apply for one of the open positions for the coming year.

.no other committee reports

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No Old Business

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New Business:

.J.Decker spoke about a concern a resident has over the lack of curbs on Eldon, Terrace and Steele. Decker will be sending this concern to City Council.

.M.Cole mentioned that there appears to be a group of youth breaking into cars in the Westgate area and residents should be watchful. He also stated that the parking area around Westgate Elementary School is getting congested with parents dropping off/picking up their children; some block the roadway for resident traffic. The City will be contacted as to the appropriate office that can handle this.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

J.Manley, secretary