

Minutes of the Greater Hilltop Area Commission – July 1, 2008 (regular meeting)

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

Meeting called to order with pledge to the flag. Minutes of the June meeting read and approved. Treasurer's report indicates a balance of \$174.41; still waiting for City allocation.

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Presentations:

....Kristi Crissinger of Friends of the Scioto River said her organization is working with Friends of Westgate in looking at putting in a rain garden in Westgate Park. She explained what a rain garden is and passed out literature. She will be seeking a letter of support from the GHAC at a time in the future.

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Committee reports: (committee chairs were asked to give a brief overview of their committee as they gave the report.)

....Recreation/Parks – S.Laughlin stated the brochure is ready and should have copies soon.

....Community Relations – nothing new to report

....Human Services – D.Bagley stated that the Farmers' Market is scheduled to open late July. She is continuing to work with the community health advisory group. She gave a summary of a town hall meeting on health issues. On July 23rd there will be a meeting of local pastors at Bible Way church to discuss health issues facing residents.

....Public Safety – J.Boggs stated nothing new to report, but he is looking a trying to develop a blockwatch for the Wedgewood area during this next year. He is working on getting someone from the Mayor's Office to come to a future meeting to discuss the surveillance cameras.

....Planning/Economic Development – nothing new to report

....Government/Legislation – J.Keplar gave a report on the recent GHAC election

....Development Regulations/Public Service – nothing new to report.

...Liquor Permit Ad Hoc – nothing new to report.

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No zoning matters

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Announcements:

....B.Lee, City liaison, gave the dates of the Regional Neighborhood Conference, October 2-4 in Lima, Ohio. The web site is: lacnip.org/conf.html

....G.Baker passed out copies of the latest newsletter of Friends of the Hilltop, referencing the Beautification Awards deadline. He also recapped a meeting of residents and City officials regarding the community space usage in the new health center; expected completion is spring/summer 2009. A proposed name is "West Columbus Family Health and Wellness Center".

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Old Business/Follow up:

....It had been suggested at the June meeting to form a budget committee whose responsibility would be to oversee monetary matters. This committee would not need to meet often; it would be comprised of the treasurer and several more GHAC members. T.Corson motioned and J.Boggs seconded, to take this matter from the table for discussion and a vote. After discussion a voice vote was taken with unanimous approval in the affirmative.

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New Business:

....May need to consider changing the date of the August meeting so that commissioners, and others, can attend National Night Out activities in the community. D.Bagley motioned to move the August meeting to August 12 and declare this an emergency ruling, which would eliminate the 30-day rule. A voice vote was taken with unanimous approval in the affirmative. A location will be forthcoming.

Meeting adjourned. This is the last meeting of the 2007-08 year.

Respectfully submitted,
J.Manley, secretary

Meeting of the Greater Hilltop Area Commission – July 1, 2008 (second meeting)

Newly elected member – John Contonio -- and re-elected members – S.Laughlin, D.Horn, C.Patterson -- were welcomed. Current Chair Patterson acknowledged the work of committee chairs throughout the past year: S.Laughlin, D.Bagley, J.Boggs, J.Keplar, J.Decker, D.Horn. The annual GHAC election was held June 28, 2008.

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

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Main agenda items of the meeting are –

....for the body to appoint someone to the 5th open seat (a 3-yr term);
....appoint someone to fill the remaining year of G.Baker's term;
....elect officers for 2008-09

J.Keplar reported on the number of votes cast during the election, stating the following:

Sue Laughlin – 121
Dave Horn – 109
Chuck Patterson – 106
John Contonio – 49
Katherine Thomsen – 45 (write-in)
Stanley Thornburgh – 27
Steve Hermiller – 4 (write-in)
Pam Weaver – 1 (write-in)

One ballot was disqualified as person voted for more than 4 people.

Unanimous vote in the affirmative to accept the results. A concern was raised as to the numbers on the ballots matching the numbering of the sign-in sheets for voting. The concern was that this may not be seen as being able to vote in secret. Perhaps a better way would be to mix the ballots so that #1 on the sheet gets ballot #50, for example. Discuss in a future committee meeting?

Keplar stated that per the City, voting for the remaining seats and officers could no longer be done by secret ballot.

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Time was given to those present who wished consideration of the appointed seats to give a brief statement as to their desire for consideration: Steve Hermiller, Stanley Thornburgh, Katherine Thomsen.

Nominations as follows: D.Horn nominated S.Hermiller and J.Contonio nominated S.Thornburgh for the 3-year term. Steve Hermiller was elected (11 votes; Thornburgh received 2). J.Contonio nominated Stanley Thornburgh and D.Horn nominated Katherine Thomsen for the 1-yr, unexpired term. Stanley Thornburgh was elected (9 votes; Thomsen received 3; one abstention)

Newly elected members are Steve Hermiller (3-yr) and Stanley Thornburgh (1-yr).

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Election of officers for 2008-09 resulted in the following:

.....Secretary – J.Manley was nominated by J.Boggs. With no other nominee, D.Bagley motioned Manley be elected by acclamation. Manley will assume the position as secretary
.....Treasurer – M.Potts was nominated by T.Corson. With no other nominee, a motion was made to close the nominations and elect Potts by acclamation. Potts will assume the position as treasurer
.....Vice Chair – D.Horn was nominated by C.Patterson. As with the previous positions, Horn was elected by acclamation. Horn will assume the position of vice chair
.....Chair – C.Patterson was nominated by D.Horn. As with the previous positions, Patterson was elected by acclamation. Patterson will assume the position of chair

New officers for 2008-09 – Chair, Chuck Patterson; Vice Chair, Dave Horn; Treasurer, Mark Potts; Secretary, Judy Manley

Respectfully submitted,

J.Manley, secretary