

Minutes of the Greater Hilltop Area Commission – December 2, 2008

In attendance: D.Bagley, J.Boggs, J.Contonio, T.Corson, J.Decker, S.Hermiller, J.Manley, C.Patterson, M.Potts, S.Thornburgh

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Meeting called to order with pledge to flag. Minutes of the November meeting read and approved. Treasurer's report indicates a balance of \$1069.54

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No zoning matters to discuss.

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Presentations:

.....Dave Bush, Asst. Finance Director of City of Columbus, spoke about the budget for 2009. He presented an overview and stated there would be two hearings before the final vote of adoption, which should take place in February 2009. Some services will be cut and some services will be funded at the 2008 level. For more information see the web site – columbus.gov. Q&A followed.

.....Mark Dravillas, City of Columbus Planning Division, spoke regarding the need to update the Hilltop Area Plan, especially amending to include land use and design guideline plans. Land use would be proposing future use of areas and the design plan would include what type of development is appropriate for land use. He stated it would be good for the GHAC to appoint a working committee to discuss land use/guideline plans. Once the Hilltop Plan is updated and signed by the GHAC and City, it would be used as a governing document for any future development.

.....Steve Torsell, director of Homes on the Hill, talked about how his organization has received funding to help homeowners facing foreclosure, primarily in the Westland area. He will be submitting a proposal for funding the Hilltop area.

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Committee reports:

.....Public Safety – J.Boggs spoke about attending a meeting on the City budget and funding cuts for CCP, and the helicopter unit. He said there is a committee meeting scheduled for December 16 if there is no zoning meeting the same night.

.....Education – D.Bagley mentioned that the Westside Community Health group is working with Habitat for Humanity regarding backyard/community gardens. Also, she had a meeting with OSU's College of Public Health regarding health issues of concern to residents of the Wedgewood apartment complex and families whose children attend Eakin Rd. Elementary School, primarily to discuss how these groups could work together.

.....Community Relations – S.Thornburgh mentioned a new neighborhood market on Steele Ave.

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Old Business – none

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New Business:

..... J.Decker reported that he and S.Laughlin met with the Columbus Arts Commission regarding the mural for Westgate Park as projects of this nature need to be approved by the City. He is asking for a letter of support from the GHAC. Unanimous approved in the affirmative.

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Announcements:

.....The Mobility Steering Committee will meet on December 3 to discuss sidewalks, etc.

.....West High's PTA is hosting a Breakfast with Santa on December 6, 8-11am, \$5

.....On January 27 there will be an open house for the City's newest area commission. Location: Barack Recreation Center.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 6, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,
J.Manley, secretary