

Minutes of the Greater Hilltop Area Commission – January 6, 2009

In attendance: J.Boggs, J.Contonio, S.Hermiller, D.Horn, S.Laughlin, J.Manley, C.Patterson, B.Spears, S.Thornburgh, K.Whitman

Meeting opened with pledge to the flag. Secretary's report approved with correction. Treasurer's report indicates a balance of \$1069.54.

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Zoning –

.....3700 Sullivant Ave. – request is for rezoning from M to LAR12 to allow for a 60-unit housing project. Also, requesting a Council Variance for parking space reduction. Attorney of representation for property owner Jill Tangeman, spoke about the project and contact with property owners nearby this site. Tangeman stated that the church and senior housing adjacent to property have submitted letters of support. Also stated is that Columbus Housing Network will be responsible for the unit being built on the site. Sam Schuller, representing Cols Housing Network, said this facility will be for residents who have mild disabilities and/or illnesses; residents will rent their own apartment; there will be an on-site manager and security. Cols. Housing Network is partnering with social service agencies for assistance. Q&A from commissioners and audience members.

Zoning Committee recommended approval. Motion to bring to floor for vote. Voting resulted in 8 yes, 1 no, 1 abstention. Motion passed.

Unless otherwise notified, there will be no committee meeting this month.

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Committee reports:

.....Public Safety – J.Boggs reported that the helicopter fleet will be up as much as can subject to gas prices; the Community Crime Patrol will be reduced to one shift, 6 nights a week; there could be further budget cuts than already voiced.

.....Economic Dev. – S.Hermiller stated he is still working with developers to consider Hilltop locations for businesses; he is also looking at funding resources to help Hilltop businesses.

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Old Business:

.....Due to the library unavailability, the February meeting will be held at the J.Ashburn Youth Center on February 3, 7:00pm

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New Business:

....the Planning Services Agreement, Greater Hilltop Plan Amendment, needs to be signed and returned to the Planning Division; this will indicate the Hilltop's agreement to work with the City on this project. Administrative motion made and seconded (Horn/Boggs). Unanimous approval in the affirmative.

....Sgt. Horton, 19th precinct, gave an update regarding the improvements to the Belvidere substation; vice complaints dealt with. He stated that in the spring there would be a 90-day directed bicycle patrol in the Hilltop. Also, he said that Lt. Elkins, helicopter unit, is appreciative of the Hilltop's support for keeping it airborne.

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Announcements:

....Westgate Neighborhood Assn. will be holding a meeting on January 15 to work out a community calendar for 2009. This will give information regarding various meetings, events, etc.

....On January 13 there will be a Mobility Planning Meeting, 7:00pm, J.Ashburn Youth Ctr, to discuss sidewalks and bikepaths.

....S.Laughlin said that City Park/Rec Dept. has approved the mural design for Westgate Park.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
J.Manley, secretary