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**Minutes**

**Wednesday, December 6, 2023 – 7:00 PM**

**Northwest Church of the Nazarene (5707 Olentangy River Road) *and* Zoom**

Call to Order: 7:02 pm

Pledge

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the November meeting minutes made by Roy, seconded by Monica, and approved unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report presented by Steve

Motion to accept Report made by Marilyn, seconded by Roy, and approved unanimously.

**Community Mic** – This meeting item allows community members to tell us what is on their minds and bring forward ideas for community enhancement. Cheryl is keeping track of what is being shared and what is being done to address any concerns/issues.

**Membership**: Cheryl is reviewing new membership forms to ensure the addresses are within our area and that checks are for the correct amount.

**City Reports**

Police Department Liaison**:** Officer Timothy Montgomery ([TMontgomery@columbuspolice.org](mailto:TMontgomery@columbuspolice.org), 614-645-1417) – No report

Fire Department: Captain Bryan Coffman, ([BJCoffman@columbus.gov](mailto:JRWadsworth@columbus.gov)), or Lt. Michael Fetch ([FetchM@columbus.gov](mailto:FetchM@columbus.gov)) – No report

* Received from another source: The Firefighters 4 Kids web site is [www.firefighters4kids.com/](http://www.firefighters4kids.com/) and their phone number is 614-633-5259.

Neighborhood Liaison: Rebecca Deeds ([redeeds@columbus.gov](mailto:redeeds@columbus.gov))

* The City of Columbus Dr. Martin Luther King. Jr.youth oratorical contest is taking place at the Columbus College of Art & Design on Saturday, December 9th from 9:00 – 2:00 pm.
* Minority- and women-owned businesses may utilize this web page for resources pertaining to business participation in City contracts and becoming certified to do business with the City – <https://www.columbus.gov/odi/Supplier-Diversity/>.
* A 20 under 20 winner is from Centennial High School - Tia Ward, a violinist who plays in the community, specifically nursing homes and hospitals.
* Rebecca will provide information on warming centers and holiday resources, and try to find out whether toys taken to fire stations remain in that area. That information will be put on the NWCA website – [www.northwestcivic.org](http://www.northwestcivic.org).

Columbus City Council Liaison: Harrison Poku-Yeboah ([HAPoku-Yeboah@columbus.gov](mailto:HAPoku-Yeboah@columbus.gov))

* In 2024, the NWCA area will be represented on City Council by Chris Wyche (District 1), Nancy Day-Achauer (District 2) and Rob Dorans (District 3).
* City Councilmembers Nicholas Bankston and Lourdes Barroso de Padilla are working on eliminating some of the requirements for minority businesses to submit bids for city projects.
* City Councilmember Nicholas Bankston is working on legislation before City Council to authorize $15 million of the city’s American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to increase access to affordable, reliable home internet by at least 50 percent among the 80,000 households that are currently underserved.
* City Council President Pro Tem Rob Dorans was instrumental in passing an ordinance that will provide one thousand housing units.
* City Councilmember Lourdes Barroso de Padilla is working on updating traffic standards.
* City Councilmember Emmanuel Remy helped to pass an ordinance enabling Lutheran Social Services to provide domestic violence services 24/7.
* City Councilmember Shayla Favor has announced that she is running to become the next Franklin County prosecutor.

Columbus City Attorney’s Office Zone Attorney Sarah Pomeroy ([scpomeroy@columbus.gov](mailto:scpomeroy@columbus.gov), 614-645-8619)

* She is no longer the Zone Attorney for Zone 4. She will be the city-wide attorney for alcohol and public nuisances.
* Zone Attorney Christopher Clark ( [ccclark@columbus.gov](mailto:ccclark@columbus.gov), 614-645-5670) will now serve our area.

**Guest Speaker: Letitia Cetina,** Transportation Planner, Division of Mobility & Parking Services, City of Columbus

She reported that the Bike Plus Plan’s goal is to make the City more livable using the latest best practices in bicycling. One of the Plan’s goals is to have safe streets for biking, one way to achieving that being to minimize shared lanes. She agreed that the northwest area has limited bike paths and needs safe connections to existing bike paths. The Plan will be finalized next Fall, enabling the City to obtain funding.

Trustee and audience comments included the following resources for people looking for bikes – Bikes for All People, Franklinton Cycleworks & Thirdhand Bicycle Co-op. Also, the acronym TSI stands for Transit Supportive Infrastructure.

**Committee Reports**

**Zoning Committee** (Chair Monica Tuttle)

Zoning/Variances

* Motion to approve Variance Application BZA23-130 for **6481 Nicholas Rd**, Columbus, Ohio to reduce the parking setback to 5 feet from 50 feet to allow the creation of 23 new parking spaces made by Monica, seconded by Roy, and approved unanimously.

This application will likely be heard by BZA on December 19, 2023 on the 4:30pm agenda.

Updates on Zoning Applications

* **980 Old Henderson** (Z22-094+CV22-142) and **919 Old Henderson** (Z23-049+CV23-088) were both approved by Columbus City Council on November 20, 2023.  Monica attended and spoke at that meeting.  The language adopted for both applications included the following: "Section 5. That this ordinance is further conditioned on the prohibition of decorative open flames at the entrance to the apartment complex."
* **5925 Sawmill Rd** (Z23-021) has not yet been scheduled to be heard by Columbus City Council.  Monica spoke with the legislative aide to City Council President Pro Tem Rob Dorans about our concerns.

**Code Enforcement, Streets, and Safety Committee** (Chair Kyle Marcum) – No report

**OSU Airport Liaison** (Sam Simoes)

* Sam met with the new airport director, Karl Von Hagel, who oversees three functions – the airport/travelers, the flight school, and the research center which has its own director.
* He is aware of concerns including noise.
* The modern airplanes that use the airport have the latest engines and use the latest fuels which do not pose an environmental lead problem.
* They are working on reopening the restaurant.
* He will come to speak at an NWCA meeting in the future.
* The Space Lab that has been reported on in the media has nothing to do with the airport.

**Recreation and Parks**

People can learn about the community garden program at <https://www.fpconservatory.org/education-programs/outreach-programs/growing-to-green>.

**Old Business**

* Monica reported that Jim Long, City Forester, said that Henderson Road is a great location for trees but they are problematic for mowing.
* If we decide to plant trees in our area, volunteers would be needed.
* You can access the Tree Canopy Map by right-clicking on this hyperlink and then clicking on “Open Hyperlink.”

[Canopy by Neighborhood](https://www.columbusufmp.org/canopy-by-neighborhood.html)

**New Business**

* + President Cheryl Grossman reminded everyone that dues have increased, and that the new membership year begins in January.
  + She reported on the two workshops she attended at the Neighborhood Best Practices Conference.
    1. At the workshop on lead, it was reported that there is no lead in water that comes through the water treatment plant. Any lead found in water could be from lead pipes. The city will receive Infrastructure Act funds to address lead issues.
    2. The 2nd workshop focused on what is required to have a healthy community.

**Adjourned:** 9:00 pm