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**Minutes**

**Wednesday, January 3, 2024 – 7:00 PM**

**Zoom Only**

Call to Order: 7:05 pm

Pledge

**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.

Approval of Minutes

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

Treasurer’s Report presented by Steve

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

**Membership**: 2024 memberships

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Karen Dimmick  Sherry Girves  Michelle Girves  Marilyn Goodman | Cheryl Grossman  Kyle Hartman  Todd Hunkins  Barbara Limbert | Catherine Logsdon  Sandra Taylor  Paula Thimmes |

**City Reports**

Police Department Liaison**:** Officer Timothy Montgomery ([TMontgomery@columbuspolice.org](mailto:TMontgomery@columbuspolice.org), 614-645-1417) – Not present

Fire Department: Captain Bryan Coffman, ([BJCoffman@columbus.gov](mailto:JRWadsworth@columbus.gov)), or Lt. Michael Fetch ([FetchM@columbus.gov](mailto:FetchM@columbus.gov)) – Not present

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

* Rebecca has provided the answers to the questions asked at last month’s meeting.
* The Department of Neighborhoods event for Martin Luther King Day includes a brief march to the Lincoln Theater where there will be a program at 4:00 pm. For more information, go to [www.Columbus.gov/MLK2024](http://www.Columbus.gov/MLK2024).
* Information on the new City Council can be found at: <https://new.columbus.gov/Government/City-Council/News-Releases-Information/City-Council-Ushers-in-New-Year-with-a-New-Era>
* For Code Enforcement concerns, file a 311 Service Request at [www.Columbus.gov/311](http://www.Columbus.gov/311), or email [311@columbus.gov](mailto:311@columbus.gov). If there is no resolution, contact Rebecca or Zone Attorney Christopher Clark ([ccclark@columbus.gov](mailto:ccclark@columbus.gov), 614-645-5670).

Columbus City Attorney’s Office Zone Attorney Christopher Clark ( [ccclark@columbus.gov](mailto:ccclark@columbus.gov), 614-645-5670)

* He covers Zone 4 which includes the NWCA area.

Columbus City Council Liaison: Harrison Poku-Yeboah ([HAPoku-Yeboah@columbus.gov](mailto:HAPoku-Yeboah@columbus.gov)) – Not present

**Guest Speaker: Teresa Gibson**, Community Refugee & Immigration Services (CRIS)

As Engagement Team | Welcome Coordinator, she mobilizes Welcome Teams of 6-12 people who are willing to work with newly-arrived refugees for their first six months as new Americans.

CRIS recently moved to Northwest Columbus. Its mission is to help refugees and immigrants reach safety and stability, sustain self-sufficiency, and achieve successful integration into the Central Ohio community. It offers a wide array of programs and services including, but not limited to, English classes, employment training and placement, health and wellness groups, youth mentorship, family support, advocacy for victims of crime, and legal services. They help approximately 750 refugees each year. Please contact Volunteer Coordinator Flannery Rokeby-Jackson at [frokebyjackson@cris-ohio.org](mailto:frokebyjackson@cris-ohio.org) if you would like to volunteer.

**Committee Reports**

**Zoning Committee** (Chair Monica Tuttle)

Zoning/Variances

* There will be three Graphics Variance Applications in February.
  + Monica asked members to email [NWCAZoning@gmail.com](mailto:NWCAZoning@gmail.com) with comments/concerns regarding the signs/graphics at Noble Academy Columbus, 1329 Bethel Road on the south side between Bethel and Godown.
  + The other two February Variance Applications are for two new stores in strip malls.

Updates on Zoning Applications

* **5925 Sawmill Rd** (Z23-021) is not yet on Columbus City Council’s agenda, as the applicant does not yet have a business that wants to locate on the site,

**Code Enforcement, Streets, and Safety Committee** (Chair Kyle Marcum)

* We recommend having a 311 presentation that includes details of the steps necessary to make a report, and how 311 can be an effective resource for neighborhood change.
* We will continue educating members on the LinkUS project. If anyone has thoughts, questions, or concerns, email [northwestcivic@gmail.com](mailto:northwestcivic@gmail.com), or Kyle at [kwmarcum156@gmail.com](mailto:kwmarcum156@gmail.com).
* The committee recommends that LinkUS, MORPC, and COTA make a joint presentation to increase members’ understanding of what they are doing, and when to expect implementation to begin. Kyle wants to talk with the speakers beforehand to help them tailor their presentations to the concerns and questions our members have, as opposed to a standard slide deck or presentation that may not address what our members want to know.
* We recommend that Daniel McCann, Code Enforcement Supervisor for our area, be invited to speak.
* We would like the Trustees to discuss changes to the Police Department Liaison’s report, resulting in it including the whole NWCA area, and perhaps being less frequent but having more comprehensive information.
* Monica will produce three electronic/hard copy maps, one showing police precincts, one showing new City Council districts, and one map showing both.

**Recreation and Parks Committee** (Chair Roy Wentzel)

* The Sheep Farm park groundbreaking will be in 2024 but has not yet been scheduled.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business** – None

**Adjourned:** 8:11 pm