Lamplighter (



Preferred Living Defeated

by The Ad Hoc Planning Committee

On Tuesday, April 19, Preferred Living officially withdrew their application to rezone 5555-5591 Sinclair Road. They will not be moving forward with plans to build 'luxury apartments' on the site.

Over the last several months, the Salem Civic Association (SCA) has been actively engaged in preventing this development from taking place. In October, SCA membership voted to oppose this rezoning. Since then members have been organizing and working together to ensure that neighborhood concerns are taken seriously and this rezoning is not approved.

The three parcels in question are part of a collection of unique and desirable lots along Sinclair Road. They contain single-family homes surrounded by other established single-family homes on large lots. It is important to the character of the neighborhood that these parcels are preserved for low-density housing. The SCA has not opposed all high-density housing projects that have come to Salem in the past. However, it is critical that future developments consider the best and most appropriate use of the land they are transforming and the Preferred Living project was not acceptable.

Because our neighborhood has a civic association, we were able to take action. We were able to gather

together in meetings to share information and act collectively. We were able to form a special committee to strategize and represent the community. We showed up en masse to the Northland Community Council Development Committee in December. We wrote dozens of letters and statements expressing our disapproval of the application. All

these things helped us prevail against a competent and motivated developer.

Throughout this campaign, my belief that a civic association exists as a type of social insurance has been strengthened. One of the most important functions of the SCA is to be a vehicle for action in the event our neighborhood is threatened. Just in case we need to organize and address a problem, the SCA is there as a launch pad. For this reason, I encourage everyone in our neighborhood to become an SCA member. I also encourage everyone to attend an SCA meeting at least once or twice every year, and always read the meeting minutes in the *Lamplighter*. Being connected and informed is the foundation of civic involvement.

This is not the first time the SCA has taken action against a developer seeking to make inappropriate changes to the neighborhood. As Columbus continues to grow, we will face inappropriate development in the future in addition to the ongoing problems we are dealing with. However, together we can take action that will not only lead us to victory over adversity, but will make a tangible difference in the quality of our community.

This is a very special moment for the SCA. A neighborhood winning a battle against a developer is

very significant in our city. It is because of the uncommon talent, experience and dedication of our residents that we have been successful. Join your neighbors this year and contribute to our efforts as we continue to deal with challenges and pursue opportunities. Salem is a unique and hidden gem that should not be taken for granted.



Salem Civic Association Meetings

The next Civic Association meetings are Tuesday, April 26 and Tuesday, May 24. Meetings are held at Salem Baptist Church on Sinclair Road at 7:00 p.m. All residents are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Salem Civic Association Meeting Minutes: February 22, 2022

by Angela VanHulle, Acting SCA Secretary

Motion made to accept January 2022 minutes. Passed

Columbus Police Liaison - Daniel Yandrich and Sergeant Joe Johnson

Contact: 614-645-1418

Dyandrich@columbuspolice.org

Regarding abandoned cars, continue to call them into 311 but CPD will not tow them, as there is no room in the impound lot. Crime continues to be low in Salem; mostly stolen cars at the apartments. Residents once again advised not to leave cars running to warm up.

A burned home on the corner of Roche and Conant (1072 Conant) - resident reported an open window.

Preferred Living - Jared Smith and Dave Perry

6.7 acres to build 94 units. Applying for ARLD vs AR variance. Went over parts of the limitation text.

Treasurer's Report - Allison Hoyt

,	2022 Budget	Actual as of $2/7/22$
INCOME	\$5,740.00	\$1,360.00
EXPENSES	\$5,740.00	\$0.00
Net Income or (Loss)	\$ 0.00	\$1,360.00
Checking Account Balance as of 2/7/22		\$5,411.94
(-) Remaining Budget Obligations as of 2/7/22		\$5,740.00
(-) Annual Cash Reserve		\$2,355.00
CASH AVAILABLE AS OF 2/7/22		(\$2,663.06)

Motion to accept treasurer's report - passed.

Ad Hoc Committee follow-up to Preferred Living Presentation - Jake Wheeler, Pat Hammel, Norma Sisson, Doug Moody, Bill Bobich, Emily Bowen. Residents can observe the NCC Development Committee meeting via zoom but need to register. The Zoom link was emailed to membership prior to the meeting.

Doug: SCA is adamantly opposed to the rezoning, that has not changed.

Sam: we are cooperating only to get more information to help continue to oppose. If this variance request were to get approved by city council, SCA wants to make sure the project is more livable. The ad hoc committee provided to Dave Paul (chair of NCCDC) all the information they gathered in opposition and this has been distributed to NCC.

Residents asked about presenting their concerns about drainage/sewer issues as a result of apartments to the City Council. Pat Hammel suggested it might be more productive to funnel all concerns through the strategic plan of the ad hoc committee. Pat asked them to supply pictures of flooded areas, including description of the picture and date of the occurrence. The more info, the better.

Residents asked if reports of 311 calls about drainage/flooding are being considered. Pat explained the Development Committee uses regulatory sources (technical data, manuals).

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NCC UPDATE - Pat Hammel

- Effective February 20, all Columbus Metropolitan Library locations will be open on Sunday again from 1-5 p.m.
- City attorney's office is objecting to the operating license renewal for the America's Best Value Inn on Sinclair.

Feb. Minutes con't. on page 5

Salem Civic Association

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Pat Hammel phammel11@gmail.com

Your name here!

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Salem Lamplighter

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Leslie Baab lesliebaab@yahoo.com

Social Media

NCC Events

161 Task Force Cleanup



We have fun and get it done!







May 14, 2022

Cleanup HQ will be behind Jiffy Lube. Join us there.

May 14 ~ June 11 ~ July 9 ~ August 13 ~ September 10

October 8 ~ November 12

Bags, gloves, safety vest and pick-up tools are provided Please wear bright clothing and sturdy footwear

For more information or to RSVP contact event coordinator Dave Coooper 614-260-0118 davecooper407@outlook.com

NCC Awards Banquet

Each year we honor our volunteers and civic leaders at an evening dinner banquet. Among this year's honorees are three outstanding nominees from Salem:

Bill Bobich, Emily Bowen, and Jake Wheeler.

April 28, 2022 at 6:00 pm - Villa Milano Banquet & Conference Center at 1630 Schrock Rd, Columbus, OH 43229

Each year, the Northland Community Council works with its members to identify individuals from throughout Northland who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to their neighbors and neighborhoods through dedication, sacrifice, and outstanding community service. These local heroes and their contributions to the community are recognized at the Northland Community Awards Banquet by the NCC and representatives from the City of Columbus and the State of Ohio. In recent years, awards have also been presented to outstanding Northland civic organizations. Attire for the evening is formal, and advanced tickets are required. This unique civic tradition is the only event of its kind in the city of Columbus.

The 2019 event was a huge success! Unfortunately this great event was canceled in 2020 / 2021 due to COVID concerns, but we look forward to seeing you on April 28, 2022!





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Feb. Minutes con't. from page 2

- 5661 Crawford is in the city receivership process that is on-going in the court system. When the city takes legal possession from the current owners, it will be put up for sale on the regular city public auction cycle.
- The annual NCC Awards Banquet will be on 4/28 at Villa Milano. See the NCC website at https://www.columbusncc.org/ for details.
- The Franklin County Board of Revision (BOR) is currently accepting complaints from property owners who disagree with the Auditor's appraised value of their properties. The filing deadline for BOR complaints is March 31.
- The city Department of Public Service has updated the Sinclair Road Improvement Project (Morse to Strimple) dates to reflect a design phase of 2022 and construction to begin in 2023. Details here https://www.columbus.gov/publicservice/streets/project-information/Sinclair-Road-Improvements/
- In 2020, the average volume of residential trash jumped nearly 25 percent. To respond to the increase, the city's 2022 operating budget includes \$16 million to purchase 22 new and replacement automated side loaders. The investment also funds three new rear loader trucks to support illegal dumping cleanup in city alleys.
- The city of Columbus hosts one of the largest Earth Day (April 23, 2022) volunteer opportunities throughout April. Activities available include

cleanups, tree planting, parks and community gardens, and community science. For details see https://www.earthdaycolumbus.org/

NCC Development Committee - Sam Shy PL is first on the agenda at the NCC Development Committee meeting.

Prospective buyers interested in converting the Magnuson Hotel into affordable efficiency apartments and providing a range of social services available to community as well as residents. This project has not come before NCCDC.

Communications - Angie VanHulle

Volunteers are needed for delivery of two routes.

Salem Web Page - Stephanie Wheeler (not present) salemcivicassociation.org will be updated.

Membership - Jake Wheeler

Memberships can be processed online. Posted on Facebook.

Safety Committee - Jeff Combs

People going around cars/houses. See something, say something.

Hospitality - (acting) Charlene

August - Meal meeting.

Old Business: Need Secretary.

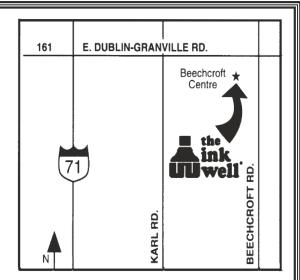
New Business - Kick Butt Campaign - Holly Rast (not present). Clean-up of I-71 exit of 161 on March 19.

Announcements - none.

Motion to adjourn.



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Curious Salem

by Grace Freeman

When was the bridge over I-71, connecting Salem to Forest Park, built?

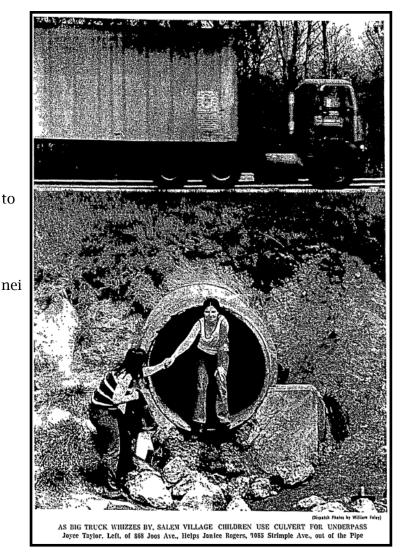
For the first twenty (or so) years of Salem's existence, it was separated from the Forest Park area to the east by the I-71 freeway. This was especially challenging for those Salem residents with school-aged children, who had no safe or convenient way to get to Woodward Park for middle school. For many years, students used an underground culvert to travel between the two neighborhoods, a convenient but dangerous route. The culvert was only 48 inches in diameter and could quickly fill with water after a rain.

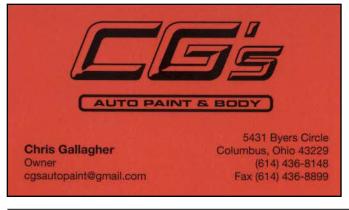
In 1972, Salem area parents and the Salem Civic Association campaigned the City of Columbus and the School Board to have a footbridge built over the freeway provide a safe way to connect the students with their school, and the ghborhoods overall.

(Images courtesy
Columbus
Dispatch
newspaper
collection May 4, 1972,
Columbus
Metropolitan
Library digital
collection)



TIGHT FIT — Kim Morrison of 1066 Minerva Ave., rides his bike through the damp subway.







It took several years for the bridge and funding to be approved, but eventually federal funding, with some local and state funding was approved, and the footbridge was built and opened in late 1974.

This route quickly had issues, however, as the wooded area on the east side of the bridge was poorly maintained and overgrown and Salem residents reported criminal activity, requesting an option to bus their students to school rather than use the path. Before committing to bussing students, the city spent time clearing underbrush and overgrown areas, and installed fences to protect the paths leading to the footbridge. In 1976, Columbus City Schools found that the cleanup effort improved the area significantly and declined to provide free bus service for the Salem students, recommending they walk via the improved footbridge path, or utilize private transportation, if preferred.

The bridge and the paths on either side of the freeway remain today, as a way to connect these two neighborhoods safely, and providing Salem residents with bike or pedestrian access to the 17-acre Woodward Park Nature Preserve, which was established in 1960.

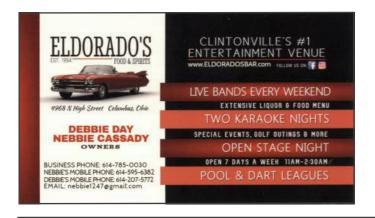


(Image courtesy Columbus Dispatch newspaper collection - October 24, 1974, Columbus Metropolitan Library digital collection)

Curious Salem is a regular feature in the Lamplighter, highlighting the history of our neighborhood and community. Grace Freeman is a Salem resident and local librarian, specializing in genealogy and local history.

Want to learn about the history of the Salem neighborhood? Email <u>curious.salem.oh@gmail.com</u> with your home/neighborhood question!







Salem Civic Association Meeting Minutes: March 22, 2022

by Angela VanHulle, Acting SCA Secretary

Motion made to accept February 2022 minutes. Passed

Columbus Police Liaison - Officer Yandrich and Sgt. Joe Johnson

Contact: 614-645-1418

Dyandrich@columbuspolice.org

- In response to a resident, the vacant property on Conant's code enforcement supervisor is Dan McCann 614-645-7292. It has been boarded up and he has been checking 2-3 times a week. It has been turned into court but due to ownership, will likely be a long civil process.
- Car lot on Strimple/Sinclair Was given a warning and was ticketed.
- The Salem area is low on crime there were 2 stolen cars (one crashed). FYI Kia or Hyundai 2016 or newer appear to the easiest to steal.
- Statewide Tornado drill was cancelled.
- A resident reported that trespassers/homeless camps had been witnessed at the north end of Poste Lake on 161. CPD reminded that if trespassing is on private property, call the CPD non-emergency number. Resident went down and pulled tarps. The resident can call Dan and he will

go to the camp with her.

• 841 Lincoln property will be taken to Sara Pomeroy, attorney for the zone initiative of Columbus to have the property declared a nuisance. Residents reported that neighbors do not want to get involved because they are fearful.

Treasurer's Report - Allison Hoyt

Budget Actual as of 3/7/22

INCOME	\$5905.00	\$1,997.00
EXPENSES	\$5905.00	\$986.00
Net Income	\$0.00	\$1017.70
Checking acc't. balance: 3/7/22		\$5,062.64
Budget obligations		\$4,918.70
Annual cash reserve		\$2,355.00
Cash available: 3/	7/2022	(\$2,211.06)

Motion to accept treasurer's report - passed. NCC UPDATE - Pat Hammel

- Effective March 21, all Columbus Metropolitan Library locations are back to regular pre-pandemic hours.
- The Franklin County Office on Aging has a new outreach effort aimed at bringing its resources directly to older residents who may not otherwise



be familiar with what the office has to offer. The new campaign, branded HOPE—Helping Our residents and families with Purposeful Engagement, will be an ongoing effort to support senior residents living independently by letting them know about services that can help them age in-place. HOPE will encompass direct outreach to seniors, families, and caregivers to check in on their health and inform them about services available through the Office on Aging. Staffers from the Office on Aging will call older residents on the phone in order to provide information directly to seniors and their caregivers. The Office on Aging's services are offered free of charge to eligible residents through support from the Franklin County Commissioners and the county's Senior Options levy. To learn more about eligibility and available services, call 614-525-5230 or visit https://officeonaging.org/

- Effective March 7th, an additional \$8 million is now available through the Columbus-Franklin County Small Business Recovery Fund to help Central Ohio small businesses continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. Grant funding will be prioritized for businesses that are located in underserved communities and are minority-, woman-, or veteranowned. Business owners interested in applying for a grant may go to
 - www.smallbusinessrecoverygrant.com to access and submit an application. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, with the first deadline occurring on March 18 and funding extending into September.
- The annual NCC Awards Banquet will be on 4/28 at Villa Milano. See the NCC website at https://www.columbusncc.org/ for details.
- Report from the Ouarterly Good Neighbor meeting with Community Shelter Board (CSB) and YMCA:
 - Winter shelter capacity overflow did not expand to any additional hotels in Northland this year. Winter season capacity starts ramping down on March 15.
 - The shelter system continues to exceed capacity for families. Currently, fifteen families are

- sheltered in rooms rented by CSB at the Hometown Suites on Ouarter Horse Dr.
- 1289 Dublin-Granville Rd. continues to be utilized as a covid quarantine site with on-site security personnel and medical services for homeless individuals testing positive for COVID-19. While the January spike in covid cases caused a second quarantine site to be opened (outside of Northland), currently there is one client in 1289 Dublin-Granville site. CSB has half of the hotel leased through June 2022. The hotel owner will not lease any other rooms to other organizations or individuals until after the CSB lease has expired.
- 1111 Mediterranean Ave. permanent supported housing site is fully leased (70 units) and Homefull is working on setting up a food access delivery program along with the Worthington Resource Pantry.
- 888 E Dublin Granville Rd. (former Magnuson Hotel) has been purchased by a private sector developer and is being renovated for use as an affordable permanent supported housing residence for individuals who do not have access to consistent housing. The owner is contracting with the YMCA for provision of 24/7 front desk staff, security staff, and coordination of access to employment, training, food access, medical, and mental health services. The YMCA will

March Minutes con't. on page 10



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March Minutes con't. from page 9

reserve the first 30 units that become available for residents of their Long St. shelter who are ready to move to leasing a unit. The Columbus Police Dept. and the City Attorney's office have and will continue to meet with the developer to discuss and review required safety and security matters. The first units are expected to be leased within 30 days, additional units will be available as renovations and repairs continue over the next year. The pool/athletic club attached to the former hotel is currently contracted for use by a private swim club.

NCC Development Committee - Sam Shy This month's meeting is on 3/30. There are three variance requests outside of Salem village.

There is a sign saying that a butcher shop is going into the old Carfagnas.

Communications - Angie VanHulle

All *Lamplighter* routes covered except two. Crawford Drive South (55) and all of Joos (50). Two residents volunteered. Thank you!!!

Salem Web Page - Stephanie Wheeler (not present) salemcivicassociation.org will be updated.

Membership - Jake Wheeler

Become a member, expenses are going up.

Safety Committee - Jeff Combs

A Strimple resident reported a lady knocking on doors late at night.

Hospitality - (acting) Charlene



August - Meal meeting.

Old Business:

- We need a Secretary.
- Preferred Living NCC voted unanimously against the request. It is unknown if they will present at the April Zoning Commission meeting. Residents are encouraged to email Jake with the resident's name and address opposing the variance request. We currently have 62 letters but need more; this is very important. The committee received very positive feedback from the NCC Development Committee about information and letters submitted by the ad hoc committee. The NCC development committee wrote their own personal notes about their opposition to the variance request as well. Homeowners within a 125' radius of the proposed PL location are permitted to speak for up to 3 minutes at the City Development Committee meeting.

New Business - On Facebook, Will Elkins offered to sponsor an East Egg Hunt on April 16, 11 a.m., at Chaseland Park.

Norma announced trustee volunteers of the year: Bill Bobich, Emily Bowen and Jake Wheeler.

Announcements - At a recent event to raise awareness of Sex Trafficking in Columbus, it was noted that the area of 161 and I-71 is of greatest concern.

Motion to adjourn.



2022 is here—it's time to renew your membership in the Salem Civic Association! If you weren't a member in 2021, don't wait any longer to join. If there is any question in your mind as to the importance of the association, look no further than the hard-fought battle just won against rezoning to witness the mobilization of the SCA to support and protect our neighborhood. Mail in your application today or go to the website online and click on the 'Membership' tab.

We need the association and the association needs us!!



Membership Application Salem Civic Association, Inc.

PO Box 26632 Columbus, Ohio 43226-0632

Or join online at: salemcivicassociation.org

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