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P.O. Box 8001, Columbus, OH 43201  
Meeting August 9, 2016  
The Foundry at Jeffrey Park-Community Room  
233 East First Ave  
Columbus, OH 43201

**August Draft Minutes: Italian Village Society Monthly Meeting**

**Date: August 9, 2016 – 7:30P**

**Location: The Foundry at Jeffrey Park – Community Room, 233 East First Ave.**

**Board Members Present: Christopher Vidoni, President; Mike Navarro, Vice President (Absent); Audra Wheeler, Secretary; Andy Klein, Complete Streets. 11 in attendance (8 members)**

**1. Welcome and Introduction Members and Guests** – President Chris Vidoni called meeting to order at 7:34p and start introductions.

**2. Approval of Minutes** (Audra Wheeler)- May, June, July minutes (see italianvillage.org) 7:35p- Do not have quorum.

**3. Italian Village Commissioner Seat** - IV Society Recommendation – (Chris Vidoni, Andy Klein)  
The IVS discusses recommendation of Shannon Fergus to the open seat of Italian Village Commissioner to Historic Preservation & Mayor Ginther (Chris Vidoni) 7:37p - Do not have quorum.

**4. Bollinger Tower** – IV Society Recommendation – (Chris Vidoni, Andy Klein) 7:45p -

A. The IVS has been made aware that the sale of Bollinger Tower will be converted in to a hotel. Residence of the Bollinger were not aware the transaction was happening until after the announcement of the transition. Bollinger was built in 1985 and the citizens of this building have become an integral part of the neighborhood and add to diversity of the neighborhood. Stefanie Harris wrote a letter to Mayor Andrew Ginther, The Italian Village Commission, Jaiza Page (city council member with a background in affordable house, Columbus Metropolitan Housing, and the Developer), and Congresswoman Joyce Beaty to make a point that the people of Bollinger Tower are part of the community and removing them from this community is not truly a benefit to the community. Also there was no discussion before the sale of Bollinger Tower with Bollinger residents or the Italian Village Residents. This letter is to voice a concern that the lack of

communication and consultation with Italian Village Society and the residents is no okay. CMHA gave vouchers but there are several people fighting over the same living space which is making a difficult transition even worse for the Bollinger residents

**B.** Another issue is IVS is not excited about the new plan / utilization for the green space in front of Bollinger Towers. They want the building to back up to the sidewalk. The developer is interested in a valet loop. The IVS questions what the Commission means when they say that 'the green space in front of buildings hasn't been successful'. Shannon Fergus is going to find out more about the Commission concerns on green space.

**5. Nominating Committee / Recruitment** - (Audra Wheeler) 7:40p - Will chair nominating/recruitment committee for the two Trustee positions that are up for election in December. Requirements are: 1) 18 Year or older 2) Organization residing or owning property or operating a business or having an interest in the Italian Village 3) Desire to promote and invest in the community. Flyer will be coming out this week on Facebook Italian Village Society page and Next Door Italian Village with information on the trustee positions and the election in December. If you are interested in or know someone interested in running for a Board of Trustee position, please let Audra Wheeler know!

**6. Complete Streets Committee** - (Andy Klein) 8:17p (IVSCSC)

**A. High Street changes** - Plans to make changes on High Street. Make it 1 lane in each direction and widen sidewalks. Multi-phase implementation. New from curb to the building including landscaping, larger sidewalks, bump outs for dedicated protected parking spaces. First phase is coming up (Convention Center to Goodale), 2<sup>nd</sup> phase is 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 10<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Phase: Goodale to Buttles, 4<sup>th</sup> Phase: Buttles to Second, 5<sup>th</sup> Phase: Second to Fifth Avenue. **(see Complete Streets Minutes)**

**B. Prescott Street** - Not going to be closed because of concerns about trucks needing the alley for loading and unloading to local business. Cars will come in from High Street and they have to turn left of right on Pearl Alley. **(see Complete Streets minutes)**

**C. Eden Alley and Pearl Alley** - Construction has been delayed. Further discussion needed. Council of Historic Neighborhoods - August 16 is reorganizing to address sidewalks, etc.

**D. Concern** - Community member raised need for crosswalk at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Summit but city stated that they have done a study and they need 150 pedestrians within an hour to justify a crosswalk (James W - community member).

**\*\*Next Complete Streets meeting is Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at Seventh Son.**

**7. Recommendation Letter to City** – (Andy Klein) Replacement of Trees in South Village Eden Alley

**8. Safety Block Watch Report** – (Officer Smith, CPD) & Massana (SNBW) (absent) 8:30p –

**A. National Night Out** went well.

**B. Connection Columbus with Dialogue** - #TogetherisBetter. Next events will be Thursday, August 18 2016, Linden Community Recreation. Several upcoming meetings. One reported burglary in the last month (below average – average is around 6 or so a month). Robberies that have happened in Campus don't match the same incident that happened in Italian Village. Cars break-ins have remained the same – do not leave items in the car. Still concern for package theft issues. CPD has caught a suspect who had multiple packages from various properties.

**9. Parking Study/Implementation update**- Mike Navarro (absent)

**10. Italian Village Commission Report** – Josh Lapp (IVC) (absent)

**11. Treasurer's Report** – (Stephanie Harris –Treasurer) 8:42p: See minutes. Stefanie spoke with Mark Wood. Development that will sit on the park. Mark said he will provide funds when the building is built and a certain percentage of the building is full. Nothing has happen with the project yet because we are waiting on developer to start the project because nothing can happen until he begins the project and fills the building. Mark will be sending over a schedule of the timeline. Other Grants available – one form the Columbus Arts Council – things that could be added to the park that are a tribute to the park or tribute to the community and the history of the community.

**12. Membership Report** - Mike Navarro (VP) (absent)

**13. Announcements** - 8:56p

- IVS Complete Streets Committee meets last Thurs. of the Month at Seventh Son Brewery, @ 5:30 pm
- Membership has its privileges, [www.italianvillage.org](http://www.italianvillage.org)
- Italian Festival

*Please note and tell your friends and neighbors Next IVS Meeting*

**14. Adjourn** – 8:58p

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Italian Village Society Secretary, Audra Wheeler**

*Next IVS Meeting*

September 13, 2016, 7:30 pm

The Foundry at Jeffrey Park – Community Room