



**Minutes of the May 4, 2022 meeting of the
NORTHEAST OHIO FIRST SUBURBS CONSORTIUM
Cassidy Theater in Parma Heights**

In Attendance:

Kwame Botchway, Power A Clean Future Ohio
Elena Stachew, Power A Clean Future Ohio
Mayor Kathleen Gallagher, City of Brooklyn
Seth Reimer, Stanford Road Advisors
Paul Marnecheck, City of Brook Park
Joe Duffy, City of Euclid
Ken Montlack, NEO-FSC
Jennifer Kuzma, NEO-FSC
Mayor Kahlil Seren, City of Cleveland Heights
Janice Tubbs, City of Garfield Heights
Mayor Matt Burke, City of Garfield Heights
Mayor Gigi Traore, Village of Newburgh Heights
Patrick Grogan-Myers, City of Euclid
Mayor Marie Gallo, City of Parma Heights
Mary Kay Costello, City of Fairview Park
Geoff Englebrecht, City of University Heights
Mayor Annette Blackwell, City of Maple Heights

Mayor Koci opened the meeting at 9:25 AM and thanked Mayor Gallo for hosting the meeting at the Cassidy Theater.

Mayor Koci then introduced presenters Kwame Botchway and Elena Stachew from Power A Clean Future Ohio, a nonpartisan coalition and campaign that is dedicated to working with communities to develop and implement proven climate solutions. Jennifer will share the PFCO presentation with the full membership and Mr. Botchway and Ms. Stachew made themselves available to answer questions and schedule meetings to go into greater detail. Currently, First Suburbs communities of Cleveland Heights, Lakewood, Euclid and Shaker Heights have joined PFCO.

Mayor Koci then moved the meeting to the first order of business – approval of the March 2022 NEO-FSC meeting minutes. Mayor Koci asked those present if any corrections or edits were needed to the minutes as they were presented. Janice Tubbs asked to have her name included as a participant of the meeting. Jennifer will make that correction. The minutes of the March 2022 NEO-FSC meeting were then unanimously approved with this one correction with a motion made by Mayor Seren was seconded by Geoff Englebrecht.

Discussion then turned to discussion on the proposal received by Stanford Road Advisors.

Jennifer reminded those present that Stanford Road Advisors has made numerous presentations to First Suburbs beginning in 2021 focused on better understanding the opportunity First Suburbs has to work collaboratively to identify banking partners to help fund community reinvestment eligible programs. Mr. Seth Reimer briefly reviewed the proposal provided to First Suburbs which provides a two-phase path to fund home repair need in First Suburbs communities. Following some discussion and questions, Mayor Koci asked for a motion to approve \$8,000 to conduct the work of Phase One of this plan. Paul Marnecheck made a motion to approve the \$8,000 expense which was seconded by Patrick Grogan-Myers. All members unanimously approved the funding request and work will begin shortly on this new initiative.

Jennifer gave an update on the Single-Family Housing Zoning Code project. Recent articles in Crain's Cleveland Business and an upcoming story in Freshwater Cleveland recap the work of Phase One completed in December 2021. The working group is nearly completed with the survey going out to Northeast Ohio developers and builders to learn more about their experiences building infill homes in First Suburbs. Details will be released soon for the opportunity to receive one of the two zoning code rewrites focusing on single-family housing code.

Under the First Suburbs Executive Committee Report, Mayor Koci asked Jennifer to report on the recently completed 2020-2021 audit of First Suburbs Consortium. Jennifer reported that the audit was completed with no findings. Mayor Koci reported on the recent meeting with the First Ring Suburbs Superintendents and others provided their thoughts on this April meeting.

In the Housing Committee Report Jennifer reported that recent presentations from Mike Sweeney on tax delinquency and introducing new key County staff members. Details on the upcoming Forfeiture Sale were also included Mr. Sweeney's presentation. Jennifer also gave an update on the implementation of Neighborhood Intel, a tool which helps to track investment and for communities participating in Citizenseve, mapping of code violations. Munetrix recently purchased Neighborhood Intel and has begun outreach to First Suburbs communities who are participating in this CDSG awarded initiative.

In the First Suburbs Development Council update, Jennifer reported that the group just approved Shaker Heights' first commercial PACE project. Jennifer mentioned that a new contact has been hired to move NOPEC financed commercial PACE projects. The April FSDC meeting included presentations from National Development Council, Cuyahoga County's Equity Zone work and upcoming 10K Small Businesses' Fall cohort opportunities.

The meeting adjourned at 10:46 AM after Mayor Koci reminded members that the next NEO-FSC meeting has been scheduled for August 3 at 9 AM.