

**THE CITY OF KENT OHIO
KENT CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
WED., AUGUST 4, 2010**

This work session of Kent City Council was called to order on Wed., August 4, 2010, by Wayne Wilson, President Pro Tem, in the absence of Jerry T. Fiala, Mayor & President of Council, at 7:00 p.m. Pro Tem Wilson explained the only item on their agenda dealt with interviews for vacancies on City boards and commissions.

PRESENT: MR. AMRHEIN, MR. DELEONE, MR. FERRARA, MR. KUHAR, MS. SHAFFER, MR. TURNER, MR. VALENTA, MS. WALLACH, AND MR. WILSON

ALSO PRESENT: D. RULLER, CITY MANAGER; J. SILVER, LAW DIRECTOR; AND L. COPLEY, CLERK OF COUNCIL

ABSENT: JERRY T. FIALA, MAYOR

Mr. Wilson explained that **David Hansford**, who is reapplying for the Board of Building Appeals, and **Chris Woolverton**, who is reapplying for the Board of Health, were both unable to be present. He explained that **Eileen Mohr** and **Warner Mendenhall**, applicants for the Salary Review Committee, were both unable to be present. Mr. Wilson said that **Dennis Wheeler**, applicant for the Income Tax Board of Review, also was unable to be present.

Iris J. Meltzer, applicant for Board of Health

Ms. Meltzer said she has been a resident since 1986. She said she has worked at Akron Children's Hospital since 1974, and is the Administrative Director of Adolescent Health Services. She said she is responsible for program planning and development for adolescent health issues. Ms. Meltzer said she has worked in areas of teen pregnancy, tobacco use, youth development, and many other fields. She said she was a member of the chartered class in 1999 for a Master's of Public Health Degree, and was degreed in 2002 from Kent State University. Ms. Meltzer said she has served on numerous boards in Portage and Summit Counties dealing with various issues of public health. Ms. Meltzer said she is a member of the APHA and OPHA, having belonged since she was hired at Akron Children's.

Ms. Meltzer said she wished to serve because of her strong commitment to this community, adding she felt it was her community. She said she believed she could use her education and skills in the public health area. She said she has experience and expertise in essential public health services, but has never been in the position of enforcing laws and regulations that encourage health and public safety. She said other areas, such as monitoring health status; diagnosing and investigating health problems; informing, educating and empowering people about health issues; and mobilizing partnerships have been a major focus of her community work and employment.

Ms. Meltzer concluded that she provided them with a brief overview of whom she is, and why she is interested. She said she wants to give back to her community, and this would be the best way to do that.

Ms. Shaffer asked how many positions were open, and the Clerk noted that one position was available.

There were no questions for Ms. Meltzer.

Fran Hernan, reapplying for Fair Housing Board/Housing Appeals Board, was not present.

Gary Schultz, applicant for Fair Housing Board/Housing Appeals Board

Mr. Schultz said he has twenty-two years experience working in state government. He said he has lived as a "non student" in Kent since 1995, and from 1986 until that time, he was a student. Mr. Schultz said he loved Kent, met his wife in Kent, has had many good times in Kent, and has seen the City develop.

Mr. Schultz said he has worked in adult prisons and in juvenile correction facilities, He said for the last ten

years, he has been the deputy superintendent in a juvenile correction facility, where he is in charge of the planning and development of the facility. He said he has influence over the \$22 million budget, and currently they are building a new \$7 million school, which will be done in eighteen months.

Mr. Schultz said he has experience working with regulatory agencies, and is aware of the magnitude of fiscal funds not being endless. He said he has seen several facilities close, and has to relocate staff or take in new staff. He said he is painfully aware of the impact of fiscal issues.

Mr. Schultz said he has sat on many committees, and has worked with many different personalities. He said he has found it is best to get all opinions, without being personal, to reach a goal.

Mr. Schultz offered his "kudos" to everyone on Council, adding the projects in Kent are great. He said he realized not everyone is happy, but congratulated them.

Mr. Schultz said he wants to serve on this committee, as he loves Kent, and wants to see it become better.

There were no questions for Mr. Schultz at this time.

Peter Paino, applicant for Planning Commission

Mr. Paino explained he has been a Kent resident since 1970, and recently completed two terms on the Board of Zoning Appeals. He said when this vacancy occurred, he thought he would apply, as it is something he has been interested in doing for a while. He said as a registered architect and builder with some experience, he has experience with planning, zoning, and construction issues. He said he has opinions on how things should be put together. Mr. Paino said he has a vision for Kent that he would like to see fulfilled, while working with Council, on the growth of the City. He said it would be nice to see nicer buildings in Kent. Mr. Paino said things in the downtown are moving in the right direction. He said he has some abilities that might lend themselves to the position on the Planning Commission.

Ms. Shaffer asked Mr. Paino if he was familiar with the Design Guidelines created by Main Street, and Mr. Paino said he attended some of the preliminary meetings. He said as far as he knows, they are for the Central Business District, and said he would like to see them for all commercial development.

Mr. Ferrara asked Mr. Paino if he foresaw any similarities or dissimilarities between the Board of Zoning Appeals and the Planning Commission, and Mr. Paino said he does see differences. He said after spending six years on the Board of Zoning Appeals, and service on that Board in the early 1980s, he will be studying things from a different perspective. He said they will be looking at a site plan review, and how it affects the City. He said that, typically, on a zoning board issue, it is site specific, and has a situation where they are looking at it from the Zoning Code. Mr. Paino said the Planning Commission gives a little more latitude, adding they will still have guidelines. He said he will have to read the Planning Commission statement to see how they are allowed to look at the issues. He said he will meet with the Community Development Director to review the different points of view. Mr. Paino said he would have to put aside things he did on the Board of Zoning Appeals, and come at it with a different perspective.

John Bard, applicant for Salary Review Committee

Mr. Bard explained that in 1954, on this date, he was born in Ravenna, and has grown up in Kent. He said he viewed this committee as not being a "forever" committee, and felt it was something he could do to contribute back.

Mr. Bard said he has been involved with a company that grew from twenty-four to five hundred employees. He said he did job training, and wrote a handbook. He said his thoughts had to change as it grew. Mr. Bard said he started looking up things regarding a Council member's salary, but quit, as he felt it would tarnish him.

Mr. Bard said he has worked with area children in sports programs, and served on the Charter Review Commission. He said this is his way to give something back to the community.

Mr. Ferrara wished him a "Happy Birthday" at this time.

Ms. Shaffer asked if he was planning or considering a run for Council, and Mr. Bard said he did run previously, but did not run in the previous election. He said he would not close the door on it, as he did not know. He said he could not say "yes" or "no," but said he was not doing this to influence anything or to feather a nest, if that is what Ms. Shaffer meant.

Mr. Valenta and Mr. Wilson wished him a "Happy Birthday" at this time.

There were no further questions for Mr. Bard.

Dee Hawkins, who was reapplying for the Income Tax Board of Review, was not present.

James Matalik, applicant for Shade Tree Commission

Mr. Matalik said he came to Kent in 1989 as an architecture student, and after attending Kent State, ended up with a degree in 2001 in Sculpturing. He said he currently works as a landscape foreman at Kent State.

Mr. Matalik said people wonder how he went from Sculpture to construction, adding he sees them blending together. He said he has always enjoyed trees, and likes to look at them before the houses. Mr. Matalik said he wants to give something back to the community, adding that trees make a difference.

Mr. Kuhar asked his present occupation, and Mr. Matalik said he is a landscape foreman.

There were no further questions for Mr. Matalik at this time.

Mr. Wilson explained that the balloting would be done at their next regular meeting on August 18, 2010.

Hearing no further business, Pro Tem Wilson adjourned this meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Linda M. Copley, Clerk of Council

Wayne A. Wilson, President Pro Tem

