

**THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO
WORK SESSION
WED, AUGUST 6, 2008**

This work session of Kent City Council was called to order at 7:02 p.m. on Wed., August 6, 2008, by John Fender, Mayor & President of Council.

PRESENT: MR. DeLEONE, MR. HAWKSLEY, MR. KUCHAR, MS. SHAFFER, MR. TURNER, MS. WALLACH, AND MR. WILSON

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

ABSENT: MR. AMRHEIN AND MR. FERRARA

Mayor Fender explained the purpose of this meeting was to conduct interviews for vacancies on various boards and commissions. He explained that appointments would be made at their next regular meeting, scheduled for August 20, 2008, at 7:30 p.m.

DEE HAWKINS, Applicant for the Fair Housing Board/Housing Appeals Board; Income Tax Board of Review (second choice), was not present.

CAROLINE ARNOLD, Applicant for the Environmental Commission, explained she was unsure how brief she could be at her age. She explained that she came to Kent in 1947 as a senior at Kent State High School, and then graduated from Kent State University. She explained that she taught school for Ravenna Township for one year. Ms. Arnold said she graduated from Oberlin in 1958, and taught music until 1965 at Ohio State University. She said she married and had two children. Ms. Arnold said she returned to Kent in 1967, adding that her dad bought her a house in 1968 where she still lives.

Ms. Arnold said she was a founding member of the Kent Environmental Council in 1970, and founded the Peaceable Kingdom, with a partner, in 1974. She said she served 10 years on the Kent Board of Education. Ms. Arnold said she worked in Senator John Glenn's office from 1985 to 1997.

Ms. Arnold said she has considerable experience with environmental issues, as she served on the Kent Environmental Council, the Dam Advisory Board, the Family & Community Services Board, and the Kent Social Services Board. She said she is a cellist for the Stow Symphony.

Ms. Arnold said that serving on this commission would be a good match for her interests. She said her experience with all levels of government is that it is the best way to govern themselves. She said that grassroots level decisions affect their lives and those of their grandchildren. She said she hopes to make it possible for her granddaughter to grow up in a rich, beautiful environment. Ms. Arnold said she wanted her granddaughter to take responsibility for the environment in the future.

There were no questions for Ms. Arnold, and Mayor Fender thanked her for applying.

DANIEL SCHWEITZER, Applicant for the Environmental Commission, explained he grew up in Mantua.

He explained that he attended Kent State University, and now lives in Kent with his family. Mr. Schweitzer said he saw the vacancy posted in the Tree City Bulletin. He said he is an environmental consultant, and works with a lot of large industrial clients and municipalities. He said they go through remediation alternatives, getting sites ready for sale and purchase, and clearing land. He said he is not too familiar with Kent, adding he knows they have some brownfield sites.

Mr. Schweitzer said he would offer his services, for what they are worth. He said he and his wife likes Kent. He said he is turning thirty-three years old, and starting thinking about civic things. He said this seems like a good fit, as that is what he does for a living. He said he does a lot of GIS mapping and environmental

assessments.

Ms. Shaffer asked if he considered himself to be an environmentalist, and Mr. Schweitzer said he does, from the standpoint of stewardship of the earth. He said he is also a realist. Mr. Schweitzer said that one thing really bothers him. He said if someone wants to develop, they may use the wetland area if they make another one. He said while he does not want to block something meaningful from coming to Kent, he is concerned about taking an ecosystem that has been there for 12,000 years. He said digging a new one does not mean they are reestablishing it. Mr. Schweitzer said he walks the line, as he has a responsibility to his clients and the environment also. He said they have to do things, in accordance with the ethical standpoint.

Ms. Wallach asked what kind of car he drives, and Mr. Schweitzer said he drives a Hyundai Accent. He said it gets good gas mileage, and does not require much maintenance.

Hearing no further business before this Council, Mayor Fender adjourned this meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Linda M. Copley, Clerk of Council

John Fender, Mayor & President of Council