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Community group sets its next meeting

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By JENNIFER WRAY

The Columbus Community Coalition will convene for its second organizational meeting this weekend.

The coalition, which first met Jan. 31, will meet from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, March 29, at the J. Ashburn Youth Center, 85 Clarendon Ave., to discuss recommendations made by its steering committee, said committee member Jennifer Adair, a Northwest Civic Association trustee.

The coalition came about as a recommendation from the Columbus Area Commission-Civic Association Work Group, which was convened by Columbus City Council to weigh in on how the city and neighborhoods could best work together.

One of the work group's recommendations, presented in December, was that the coalition be formed in order to ensure its recommendations concerning items such as area commission boundaries and educational opportunities for the civic groups were implemented.

Attendees at the January meeting supported continuing the work group's objectives, as well as expanding the scope of work.

"The steering committee met Saturday, March 22, and we have some recommendations to present (at the meeting)," Adair said. "We're also going to be talking about the committees, what we want those to do and look like."

Unofficially, the committees, modeled after a list of priorities created at the premier meeting, include the following subject matter:

- Area Commission-Civic Association Work Group recommendations;
- economic development;
- city services and infrastructure;
- education;
- environment; and
- social and community issues such as safety and graffiti.

The meeting also will include suggestions from the steering committee regarding the coalition's "basic structure," said Adair.

"We've made some recommendations about our purpose and mission statement, membership and meeting frequency, but it's all unofficial -- nothing has been decided," she said.

For more information on the coalition and its meetings, e-mail info@columbuscoalition.org or visit its Web site, columbuscoalition.org.

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