



**Report of the Mayor
Benjamin I. Holbert, III
November 14, 2018**

Meeting 11 – Final

I am very pleased to report that Woodmere Village was awarded a \$50,000 Master Planning Grant. The grant is for in-kind professional services. The award will allow the Village to develop a policy framework for decisions that affect the physical, social, and economic environment of the Village. The grant is also aimed at increasing the quality of life for our residents as well as business opportunities for our merchants.

The project will include community, council and business input. We are currently scheduling meetings with county agents and we look forward to sharing additional details in the weeks to come.

We want to also report that the administration met with representatives of the Cuyahoga County Development office. The primary topic was a Community Development Block Grant. In consultation with the village engineer and the village architect the administration is going to apply for the Block Grant that is worth \$150,000. We hope to have results by the July meeting.

Finally, we attended a program sponsored by the Greater Cleveland Partnership featuring meetings at the White House and briefings by two cabinet level secretaries; Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke and Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar. The next day we heard from the Ohio Delegation including Congresswoman Marcia Fudge, Jim Joyce, and Jim Renacci. We also heard from former speaker of the house, Nancy Pelosi. Pictures were posted on Woodmere Village social media.

Both days we heard about the opioid crisis, workforce development and small business administration opportunities. We also attended a separate mayors and managers briefing in Columbus. The opioid crisis was also a major topic of discussion.

In May, Councilman Tennyson Adams and I attended an extremely informative conference in Fort Worth Texas pertaining to fire station design. I have attached an executive summary to this written report.

Finally, the Administration is holding a **business roundtable** next Wednesday (June 20th). Consultants Gary Murphy and Mary Flenner have been instrumental in engaging our businesses – **hearing their needs** -- and helping market and collaborating to communicate a positive message. Competition abounds, and Woodmere **MUST** engage. As of last week, prior to her hiatus, Mary Flenner reported businesses have RSVPed for 86-percent of the

spaces available for the roundtable. Texas de Brazil will host the event beginning at 5:30PM.

Youth and Education Report
June 13, 2018
Submitted by Benjamin Holbert

We met with Ms. Gail Sanford of Belmont Road. She is a Child Development Advocate and has presented educational programming for Woodmere Village Youth. She was active during the Smith Administration and we welcome her volunteerism to continue this work for our children as we enter the Fall 2018 school year.

This morning we met with the new superintendent of the Orange School District. His name is Dr. Wendell "Lynn" Campbell. He was selected through a national search; he was a former school principal at Kirkland High School.

Eton Explorers is a free event that took place yesterday at the Gazebo. The program is ideal for parents and caregivers to bring children. Next month the kids will dress in their favorite super hero costumes as a prince or princess. Plenty of pictures will be taken. We want to thank the Village Police and Fire Department for engaging the children and being tremendous ambassadors for Woodmere. Pictures were also uploaded to Social media pages.

We met with the president of W.F. Hann & Sons located in Warrensville Heights. They have the first female president in the 105 history of existence. **Karen Johnson** gave us a tour of this impressive building and she appealed to us to help them find young plumbers and HVAC apprentices because many people with the certifications are eligible to retire.

We are very pleased to welcome Ms. McCulley to the committee – there are exciting times on tap.