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UA CITY MANAGER

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Kip Greenhill introduced the speaker, **Steve Schoeny**, who joined the City of Upper Arlington as City Manager on September 30, 2019.

A native of Cincinnati and a 13-year resident of Upper Arlington, Steve previously served as the Director of the City of Columbus' Department of Development beginning in the summer of 2013. During his tenure, the department implemented new planning principles that provide a consistent framework throughout the city, in collaboration with neighborhood leaders. He has spearheaded numerous economic development efforts that resulted in a net gain of more than one million square feet of Class A office space in Columbus. He led Columbus' participation in the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's (MORPC) Corridor Concepts project, collaborating with eight regional municipalities around a shared vision of mobility. Steve also oversaw the creation of a proactive code enforcement system for the department, as well as a restructuring of various housing incentive programs to encourage mixed-income neighborhoods.

Prior to his role at Columbus, Steve led the economic development consulting practice for Ice Miller Whiteboard, providing strategic planning services to various municipalities and performing site selection, incentives negotiation and analysis for projects that included corporate headquarters, manufacturing sites and data centers. He also served as Director for the State of Ohio's Strategic

Business Investment Division, overseeing statewide economic development efforts including project and incentive negotiations, monitoring agreement compliance and business retention.

Steve has a Master of Public Management from the University of Maryland, School of Public Affairs, and Bachelor of Arts degrees in Political Science and Economics from Ohio University. He is an Ohio University Voinovich School Distinguished Alumni recipient, a Columbus Business First Power 100 recipient, and a Rose Fellow from the National League of Cities/Urban Land Institute Daniel Rose Center. His community involvement includes: Board Member and Treasurer for CelebrateOne, Board Member for the Central Ohio Community Improvement Corporation, and Board Member for Partners Achieving Community Transformation. He is actively involved in various Upper Arlington youth sports programs, including the Golden Bear Basketball Club, Kiwanis Soccer and Bear Cub Baseball. Steve is also a member of our Club. He is married and has two children.

Steve's topic today was economic development in UA. He first noted, with a not small amount of relish, the May 4 vote approving the new community center at Kingsdale by 79.95% to 20.05% margin. He said that this vote will drive economic development beyond Kingsdale. The center will be the third component of the new development at the old Macy's site, with Continental building apartments and a senior living facility.

Steve emphasized that there will be ample parking at the new development, with 831 total spaces provided. There will also be 2 floors of office space at the community center, and discussions with potential tenants are occurring. Rental of this office space will provide additional support for the center,

[CLICK HERE](#) to view this meeting and all previously recorded Rotary meetings

GREETERS

June 8

Bill Hosket
Jack Cotter

June 15

Joe Valentino
Sandra Cotter

June 22

Larry McVey
Rudy Whipps

REGISTRATION DESK

June 8

Jon Hellstedt
Keith Schneider

June 15

Jim Hamilton
Rich Simpson

June 22

John Hansel
John Cleland

CALENDAR

June 8 - Scioto CC/ZOOM

Parent - Grad Day & Northwest
Volunteer of the Year Award

Host: Bill Hosket & Jim Ayers

June 15 - Scioto CC/ZOOM

Maddie & Jason Fine -
Overcoming Tourette's
Syndrome

Host: Jason Fine

June 22 - Scioto CC/ZOOM

Changing of the Guard

Host: Milt Lustnauer

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SOCIAL EVENTS

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OUR NEXT MEETING

JUNE 8TH
SCIOTO CC/ZOOM

Upper Arlington
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and the space will represent the future of what people want their offices to look like, with walking proximity to grocery stores, pharmacies, restaurants, and more than a few banks.

Steve then discussed the new Arlington Gateway on Lane Avenue. The named tenants are Northwestern Mutual Financial, First Merchants Bank and AssuredPartners. There are 135,000 square feet of Class A office space on 5 floors above a parking garage, plus 27,000 square feet for retail/restaurant space. There will be 225 apartment units, and 869 spaces in the garage.

Steve next described the Lane Avenue corridor more generally. The City has done planning so that when the next phase of development happens, the rules for engagement of developers and the community will already be in place. He is not sure about the timing of redevelopment of the Shops on Lane Avenue, but believes this will happen. The property is too valuable to be only a single story strip mall. But there is much other redevelopment for the City to "digest" first, and the City does not own or control the strip mall property.

Steve also noted that eventually there will be a "reimagining" of the Henderson Road corridor, which he describes as the "last frontier" of UA.

Steve characterized as the LinkUS project as the most important local initiative impacting UA.

This is a regional initiative exploring 5 mobility/transit corridors, recognizing that many more cars will choke growth. The Olentangy corridor is one of the first 2 to be studied. The premise is that faster, cheaper, more reliable pathways to job centers without massive investment is possible.

Steve also described the UA Economic Development "Blueprint", being done with the assistance of the Boyette firm. This will be an economic development strategy to help guide the City over the next 5-10 years. The expectation is to wrap this project up during the summer.



THE MEETING



Debbie Johnson opened the meeting, which was held in person at the Amelita Mirolo Barn and also via Zoom.

Bob Prior provided the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

The sole visiting Rotarian was **Joe Henderson**, Economic Development Director for the City of Upper Arlington, and a member off the Tri-Village Club.

John Trapp introduced his guest, Nicholas Green.

John Ness introduced his guest, Pastor Steve Turnbull.

Prince Finley introduced his guest and his wife, Alice Finley.

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NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:



Debbie Johnson noted the opening of the new UA Veterans Plaza on the prior Saturday, partly funded with a gift from the Club.

Debbie also noted the opening of the new children's play space at the UA Main Library, also partly funded with a gift from the Club.

Chip Knoop announced Saturday June 19 as the next date for a Bed Brigade program, when Club members can build beds for children in need. The program will again happen at the UA Lutheran Church in Mill Run. More details are forthcoming.



Bill Hosket provided a reminder about Parent/Grad Day on next Tuesday June 8. You and your favorite graduate may join in person or on Zoom. Please review the recent emails about this program and submit your grad's information to **Herb Gillen** as soon as possible so that he can complete the slide presentation featuring each grad.

Ginny Barney noted that a plaque featuring the late Club member **Linda Readey** will be a 2021 addition to the Wall of Honor at the UA Municipal Services Center. Ginny said that Linda is the first Club member to be so honored.

Michele Hoyle thanked those who gave to the recent drive to supply diapers, wipes and funding to the Heart-to-Heart Pantry. She and Debbie delivered the goods in the rain over the weekend. Pledges of support totaled approximately \$1,000.



Chris Guglielmi provided a reminder of the next Senior Service Saturday event, on June 5 at 8:30 AM. Help is still needed. Let Chris know if you can help out.

Milt Lustnauer asked that members save the date of Sept. 17 for the annual fundraiser, at the new Crew stadium.

Debbie noted that the virtual Rotary International Convention will take place on June 12-16. The Club will cover the registration fee for members who want to participate.

Dave Dewey recognized these new 125 Club members: **Jeanine Hummer**, **Paul Imhoff** and **Ua Chamberlain**. He also recognized **Price Finley** for being a Paul Harris Fellow + **seven**.



Debbie also conducted "pre-harassment", noting that anyone who asked the main speaker about blue bricks from the old Macy's building would be fined \$5. She also conducted "reverse harassment", wherein she asked trivia questions about UA history, and providers of correct answers received a UA history book, partly in service of clearing space in Debbie's house.