



**AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION
WORK SESSION MINUTES
Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.**

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Chiquita Eugene, Chair
Joi Harden
Daryl Horton
Nelson Linder, Vice Chair

LeKisha McKinley
Greg Smith
Dr. Jennifer Wilks

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chief of Police Art Acevedo
Jason Alexander
Dr. Michael Curtis
Asst. Chief of Police Dennis Ferris
Melodye Foust
Asst. Chief of Police John Hutto

Howard Lazarus
Asst. Chief of Police Sean Mannix
Dusty McCormick
Asst. City Manager Michael McDonald
Wuthipong Tantaksinanuki

1. CALL TO ORDER—5:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 5:40pm by Vice Chair Nelson Linder.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Mr. Eric Shropshire addressed the Commission concerning the introduction of bike lanes in East Austin, stating that the City of Austin should take into consideration all modes of transportation and should create a comprehensive plan for all modes of transportation and the process by which decisions are made.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 6, 2010 AND FEBRUARY 3, 2010 REGULAR MEETINGS.

The minutes stand as presented.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING:

a. Discussion on Police and Safety Issues in the African American Community with Chief Art Acevedo

Chief Acevedo spoke to the Commission concerning diversity of the work force within the Austin Police Dept. presenting demographics showing the breakdown of the work force of civilian employees and uniformed officers. Chief Acevedo also spoke about hiring and promotion practices which are designed to create more diversity.

b. Presentation from City Staff from the Transportation Department on the creation of Bike Lanes in East Austin and consideration of creation of Resolution to the City Council concerning creation of Bike Lanes in East Austin

Mr. Howard Lazarus spoke to the Commission about the process for community outreach and Public Works road projects in East Austin. Mr. Lazarus stated that the Public Works Dept. is working to be inclusive in their notification process.

c. Discussion on outcome of January 30, 2010 Community Forum

The Commission received additional demographic data, but would like additional information.

d. Discussion of duties for Intern from Huston-Tillotson

The intern position should be responsible for marketing the Commission's meetings and events, outreach to Huston-Tillotson students to increase attendance at the Commission's meetings, press releases on meeting topics and guest speakers, and researching topics raised in the Commission's meetings.

e. Reports from Commissioners on attending other Board's and Commission's meetings

Without objection this item was postponed until the April 7, 2010 meeting.

f. Setting agenda items for future meetings, including non-substantive housekeeping matters (such as meeting dates, potential topics, and information and research requests for staff)

- g. The agenda for April should include a discussion on outcome of January 30, 2010 Community Forum, reports from Commissioners on attending other Board's and Commission's meetings, presentations on social services budgets from the Parks & Recreation Dept. and the Health & Human Services Dept.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm.