



**AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Chiquita Eugene, Chair
Sherry Cherry
Wayne Cook
Clifford Gillard

Daryl Horton
Nelson Linder, Co-Chair
Greg Smith

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jason Alexander
Carrie Brown
Melodye Foust

Dusty McCormick
Anthony Snipes

CALL TO ORDER—5:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 5:40pm by Commissioner Eugene.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

There were no speakers.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 3, 2011 REGULAR MEETING.

The minutes stand as presented.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Reports from Commissioners on attending other Boards' and Commissions' meetings**

There were no reports.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Update from staff and introduction of artist for the African American Cultural & Heritage Facility (Carrie Brown, Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services Office-Art in Public Places; Reginald Adams, selected artist)**

Ms. Brown introduced the artist, Mr. Reginald Adams of Houston. Mr. Adams showed slides of some of his previous projects with neighborhoods in Houston and told the commission how excited he is to be working on this project. Mr. Adams also presented a copy of a survey he has developed to enlist the support of the stakeholders.

- b. **Update from the Austin Convention & Visitor's Bureau to include information on the African American presence on their website and on their promotion of African American businesses and events (Bob Lander, President & CEO, Austin Convention & Visitor's Bureau)**

Mr. Lander and staff addressed the commission concerning their current outreach efforts to bring more African American conventions and visitors to Austin. Staff spoke about different events they have attended and the conventions that they are currently working on bringing to Austin. Commissioners asked about the website—the African American site is currently closed.

- c. **Resolution in support of Minorities for Equality in Employment, Education, Liberty and Justice, Inc. (MEEELJ, Inc.)**

A resolution in support of Minorities for Equality in Employment, Education, Liberty and Justice, Inc. (MEEELJ, Inc.) was approved on Commissioner Smith's motion, Commissioner Linder's second. Vote 5-2 with Commissioner Linder and Commissioner Horton voting against.

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

The agenda for October will include an election of officers for the coming year.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.