



**AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

Daryl Horton
Nelson Linder, Co-Chair
Greg Smith

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sharon Aguilar
Patrick Corona
Melodye Foust

Kit Johnson
ACM Michael McDonald
Cora Wright

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 NOVEMBER 2, 2011 REGULAR MEETINGS.

The minutes stand as presented with a notation added to the November 2, 2011 minutes concerning the request for a draft letter to ACM Michael McDonald.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Update on the progress of the Judicial Support Task Force (Co-Chairs Judge Leonard Saenz and Judge Kelly Evans)**

Judge Saenz presented the findings and recommendations of the Judicial Support Task Force. Judge Saenz stated that their charge was to make the system less punitive and more supportive of families.

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

There were no reports.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Staff report on structural concerns at the Turner Roberts Recreation Center (Kit Johnson, Public Works Department and Patrick Corona, Parks and Recreation Department)**

Kit Johnson, Public Works Department, gave the Commission an overview of what has happened at the facility and some of the options for addressing the issues. Patrick Corona, Parks and Recreation Department, informed the Commission that all the programs that were previously being held at the facility have been relocated and the City is providing free transportation to and from the locations that are now housing the programs. Mr. Corona also stated that there is an item on the December 15, 2011 City Council Agenda to approve funding for a temporary facility for programs.

b. Discuss draft letter to Assistant City Manager concerning Austin Convention and Visitor's Bureau Initiatives

The Commission decided to form a working group consisting of Commissioners Linder and Gillard to define the information the Commission would like to receive from ACVB. The working group is to report back to the full Commission at the January meeting.

c. Approve Commission Meeting Schedule for 2012 as required by City Ordinance

The schedule was approved with the change of the January and September dates. These meetings will be moved to the second week of the month to accommodate holidays.

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 Commission would like a presentation on the E. 11th & E. 12th Street Revitalization efforts by the Neighborhood Housing & Community Development Dept. and an item on the East End Relay Fest for their January meeting. The Commission would like a presentation on homeless services from the Health & Human Services Dept and on mental health from Rev. Joseph Collins for the February meeting.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.