



**AFRICAN AMERICAN RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Chiquita Eugene, Chair
Sherry Cherry
Wayne Cook

Clifford Gillard
Greg Smith

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jason Alexander
Melodye Foust

Brian Gildea
Dusty McCormick

CALL TO ORDER—5:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 5:35pm by Commissioner Eugene.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Mr. Sean Garretson, a member of the Chestnut Neighborhood Revitalization Corp. (CNRC), spoke about a development project on E. 12th Street. The CNRC has purchased six properties near the intersection of E. 12th Street & Chicon and plans to redevelop it into 45 owner-occupied residences and commercial space that would be affordable for start-ups.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 7, 2012 REGULAR MEETING.

The minutes stand as presented.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Report from Working Group concerning information request to Austin Convention and Visitor's Bureau**

Without objection this item was postponed until the May meeting.

- b. **Report from Working Group on Resolution concerning African American health & mental health issues**

Commissioner Cherry reported that she had been in contact with Rev. Collins and with the Housing Authority concerning putting information on mental health in apartment complex offices with the hope of getting information in locations that would benefit the residents. Rev. Collins has agreed to assist in putting together a DVD of information on mental health issues. The Commission will consider a resolution to the City Council in conjunction with Mental Health Month in May.

- c. **Reports from Commissioners on attending meetings of other City Boards and Commissions**

There were no reports.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Presentation on the Economic Development (Chapter 380) Agreement between the City of Austin and US Farathane (Brian Gildea, Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services Office)**

Mr. Gildea presented information on the City's agreement with US Farathane. Mr. Gildea explained the process the City uses to determine if a company is eligible for incentive consideration and how the amounts are determined. Mr. Gildea also explained that the incentives are in the form of rebated taxes on personal and real property and that the company must satisfy the goals set for them by the City. The City and an independent third party audit the company for compliance with the agreement before any payment is made.

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

Future agenda topics will include the postponed report from the Working Group on the information request to ACVB, a presentation on online learning, a presentation from Mr. Garretson on the E. 12th Street development project, a presentation on the programs that will be offered at the African American Cultural & Heritage Facility, a presentation on the debt service for the HUD grant to EGRSO, and a presentation on the programs and services offered by the City's Small Business Development Program.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35pm.